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Marshallese poet helps Pacific Islanders' voices be heard. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

'Unified resolution' on CW issue in the works

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

» Chamber, HANMI, SHRM drafting document

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce board has met with the leaderships of the Society of Human Resource Management and Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands on the issue of the current contract worker crisis and is working to draft "a united resolution" on the issue, said Chamber president Velma Palacios.

Palacios

"While we collaborate to outline the specifics of this document, we wish to state that the Chamber supports a process that will review CW-1 applications so that they are fair and equitable and so that they enhance the economic benefit of the CNMI," Palacios wrote in the Chamber's June newsletter. She added that the Chamber supports the law that requires the transitioning of currently qualified

See UNIFIED on Page 4

'CUC systemically fails to meet court-ordered hiring mandates'

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

» EPA reveals that CUC limits search for top position to local outlets

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has systemically failed to hire personnel for vacant management positions in line with its federal court stipulated order, and for some reason has limited its search for its top executive director position to local outlets despite promises made to expand personnel searches off-island, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said in a May 25,

See CUC on Page 4

CNMI DOL has no authority on type of employers' petition

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

» Over 5K construction workers for BSI approved for exemption

The CNMI Department of Labor said it does not have the authority to regulate the classification of visa or status that an employer uses to petition their employees.

The question of what the government has done to ensure that the CNMI-only transitional worker petitions and status truly goes to those who need it and not to those who can qualify under a different status has been brought up by some members of the public.

"It's not a matter of us doing it because obviously that's out of our approval perimeter. But if it comes down to those employers, we're really encouraging them to apply under

See DOL on Page 4

WILDLAND FIRE DEREK GERSONDE

A huge wildland fire rages in the jungle area in Capital Hill on Monday late afternoon and spread to Wireless Ridge and Talafofo area until yesterday, sweeping over 100 acres of vegetation. As of last night, the fire was already under control, but firefighters were still monitoring the area as smoke can still be seen.

INSIDE

LOCAL
A total of 323 students were beaming with pride and excitement as they received their certificate of promotion at Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Jr. High School yesterday.

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NATION
The Cincinnati Zoo has an open viewing area that was among the first of its kind and is now common in many zoos around the country.

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LIFE & STYLE
Memorial Day weekend, long a flagship launching pad in Hollywood's summer, went bust at the box office, as a pair of poorly reviewed sequels disappointed.

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Local

139 graduate from Saipan Southern

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
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CORRESPONDENT

THOMAS MANGLONA II

The Top 10 students of Saipan Southern High School's graduating class pose for a photo flanked by local leaders, Public School System officials, dignitaries, and their 129 classmates on campus during yesterday's commencement exercise.

Saipan Southern High School valedictorian Jason Lee started spearfishing in his freshmen year.

He was initially apprehensive to venture out into the deep blue ocean but eventually mustered the courage to join his friends more often.

"I learned to enjoy the bounty of sea that surrounds us and the opportunity that my school provided," he told his 138 classmates during yesterday's commencement exercise on campus.

"What Saipan Southern High School and spearfishing have taught me is to preserve fresh eyes," he added. "Some of us have lived here all of our lives…but as we ready ourselves to commence our new lives it is the attitude to be able to see with clear eyes all the opportunities that lay out there."

In his address, Lee also urged his fellow graduates to dive into the "vast ocean" and realize that there is so much more to know that what is on the surface of life.

The valedictorian noted that although the school year began with the destruction of a typhoon, he and his peers came out stronger than Soudelor.

"We will face the challenges the future holds with our eyes wide open," he said.

Joining in his call to action, salutatorian Kyle Catilo urged his fellow graduates to remain grateful throughout their lives.

"I can attribute my success in life, whether it be big or small, to my support system… I have been fortunate enough to be surrounded by positive, influential, and supportive people who have inspired, motivated, and challenged me," he said.

Catilo stressed the importance of building meaningful relationships and support systems. "Find people who not only will be there in your glory days, but people who will be there in your darkest hours," he explained. "Being up here is not a result of my own efforts. Being up here is a result of having a strong support system."

» COE: 73 pct of seniors accepted to college, universities

Joining in congratulating the graduates and their families were Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero, Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, Public School System key management, SSHS principal Martha Kintol, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, first lady Dianne Torres, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), and other dignitaries.

In her remarks, Dr. Sablan explained that investment in education can occur in many ways and can be difficult.

She said, "These students here really are the evidence of what investment in education is all about."

Sablan noted that 73 percent of the graduates were accepted to college, 11 students are employed, 10 are enlisted in the armed forces, one will be joining the fire academy, and nine students received full-ride scholarships—among many other accomplishments. She also lauded several students who passed the Northern Marianas College placement exams in Math and English.

"The work the students have done is a testament to your support, love, nurturing, and sacrifice that you have done," she added. "Please ask them to come back… We need them to be a part of the community so we can advance our lives here."

In the presentation of awards, Jason Lee received the Board of Education Award and Kyle Catilo was awarded the Commissioner's Award. Both students were recipients of the Lt. Governor's Leadership award.

The Governor's Leadership Award was presented to Annika Matias, for her outstanding involvement in school and community activities. Terrence Jade C. Blanca is the recipient of this year's Principal's Award.

The Top 10 students of the graduating class were also recognized: Fariha Omaris ranked 10th followed by, Annika Matias, Eden Deang, Mikhail Alcantara, Ji Sun Lee, Ji Hoon Lee, Rhea Ann Banados, Terrence Blanca, Kyle Catilo, and Jason Lee.

The students left one seat on stage with a photo of their late classmate, Timothy Lee Salas Wesley Jr., who would have graduated with his classmates yesterday.

In his keynote address, Rep. Edwin Propst (Ind-Saipan) offered words of wisdom to the graduates, which he learned from his mother and father.

"Expect setbacks, failure, and mistakes," he said. "You're prone to make mistakes. What sets us apart from others is how we will learn from mistakes and how we rebound and recover when we do not succeed."

He urged the graduates to "embrace the present" and not forget to enjoy being in the moment with loved ones.

"Be humble and learn that saying 'I am sorry' is just as important as saying 'I love you,'" he added. "No matter where your journeys take you in this life, never forget that how you make people feel is just as important, if not more important, as to what you say or do."

The SSHS graduation was themed, "The potential within us is greater than the obstacles around us."

THOMAS MANGLONA II

Saipan Southern High School valedictorian Jason Lee poses for a photo with his parents and Public School System board members Janice Tenorio and Herman Guerrero yesterday at Saipan Southern High School.

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Marshallese poet helps Pacific Islanders' voices be heard

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

JON PEREZ

Marshallese poet and activist Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner, center, was the special guest of the Northern Marianas Humanities Council's poetry writing workshop held yesterday at the Northern Marianas College. From left, National Geographic and Associated Press contributor Daniel Lin, Scott Russell, Dr. Brady Hammond, Frankie Eliptico, Polly Masga, and Eulalia Arriola are the others in the photo.

Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner may be small in stature but the girl from the tiny island nation of the Republic of the Marshall Islands has a big voice that resonates the message about climate change that caught the attention of the leaders of the world's super powers.

Jetnil-Kiljner, who was on Saipan to hold a free poetry workshop, traveled thousands of miles from the Marshall Islands to address the United Nations members on Sept. 23, 2014, for the opening of the Climate Change Summit in New York.

She was chosen to represent civil society and delivered an emotional speech, appealing to world leaders to address and find solutions on the issue of climate change as many Pacific Island nations—like the Marshalls—face a threat of being wiped out of existence with its people becoming climate change refugees.

"Climate change is affecting us all and we experience it first hand in Oceania. We must be prepared for its impact and the threat of having our islands to be devoured by the ocean," said Jetnil-Kiljner, who will be the keynote speaker of the Northern Marianas Humanities Council's 25th anniversary gala on Oct. 28 at the Pacific Island Club Saipan.

In her U.N. speech, she made a passionate plea for everyone to do something about climate change ending it with a poem she wrote for her then 7-month old daughter titled "Dear Matafele Peinam."

Jetnil-Kiljner received a standing ovation with her message, a rare sight among the world leaders in the U.N. headquarters. She is a poet, climate change activist, mother, teacher, and performing artist.

She said that the free poetry workshop was supposed to be done by video chat through Skype, but decided to come to Saipan after attending the Pacific Asia Travel Association and the 2016 Festival of the Pacific Arts that were both held in Guam.

Jetnil-Kiljner, whose mother Hilda Heine was elected as the eighth and first female president of RMI, said she uses her workshops to teach the youth how to promote awareness through writing. "We must teach the youth to use writing as a tool for social awareness."

She added that writing social issues affecting Pacific Islanders helps shed light and create awareness to people around the world that are not usually seen in Western Media. "These stories are not that well known. How they could see the Pacific Island culture and our struggles."

Jetnil-Kiljner had been posting video blogs and readings her poems on YouTube to introduce the Marshall Islands and its culture to other people. The University of Arizona Press turned her collection of poems—*For a Marshallese Daughter*—into a book.

It is set for release in December and it will be the first book to be published outside of the Marshall Islands.

More than 40 attended yesterday's one-day poetry workshop made up of students from Agape Christian School, Mt. Carmel School, Grace Christian Academy, Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, and the Northern Marianas College.

Some Thursday Market vendors move to PDM

A number of Thursday Night Street Market vendors relocated to the Paseo de Marianas with personnel from the Saipan Mayor's Office preparing the Garapan Fishing Base for the June 10 opening of the 2016 Liberation Day carnival.

SMO special assistant Henry Hofschneider said they received word that some of the vendors, which moved to PDM, just wanted to continue.

"We learned that they just wanted to continue with the Thursday Market as the Fishing Base will not be available for more than a month to give way to the Liberation Day festivities. They wanted to continue to earn that's why they relocated to PDM," said Hofschneider.

At first the Liberation Day committee was thinking of accommodating the Thursday Night Street Market vendors with some also having booths for the festival. But chose to drop the plan since the Thursday Market stops its operations during the Fourth of July celebration.

"But we invited some of the vendors. We offered for them to come in and apply as concessionaires. Some will be joining us in the Liberation carnival, while others decided to take a break," said Hofschneider. ***(Jon Perez)***

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Korean businessmen, families panicking over CW crisis

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Many Korean businessmen and their families are panicking because they are also affected by the contract worker crisis.

Because of the confusion, the Korean Association of Saipan is organizing a dialogue with its legal counsel, Janet H. King, with the affected Koreans on the island.

Republic of Korea consular assistant Won Jun Lee told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the forum will be held at the Korean Association of Saipan office in San Antonio this Saturday at 5pm.

King will explain about the law and the contract worker (CW1) situation, then will answer questions, said Lee who is also a member of the board of directors of the Korean Association of Saipan.

Lee said he and another interpreter will attend the dialogue and that all other nationalities who are interested are free to come.

Lee said they decided to organize this dialogue because many Koreans, mostly those with children, are panicking and asking questions.

"Many people don't know what's going on and what to do because of the English barrier," Lee said.

An unknown number of children whose parents have permits expiring before Sept. 30, 2016, will be forced to leave the CNMI, after the federal government announced recently that it had reached its cap of 12,999 CW permits for foreign workers and that no more applications would be accepted for fiscal year 2016.

Lee cited that the Korean Association of Saipan president Hong Kyun Kim has more than 100 employees, including locals, and that many of those are affected by the CW crisis.

Kim owns businesses such as a construction company, apartment units, hardware, and others. He also owns the Korean newspaper, *Saipan Times*.

Lee said there are 2,000 Koreans on Saipan and most of them have various businesses.

Lee said the Koreans are worried not only for their families, but also the future of their businesses because they have many affected CW employees.

CUC

From Page 1

2016, letter to the CUC board and management.

The May letter, copies of which were obtained by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, highlights long-standing personnel vacancies that EPA says are "adversely impacting operations," such as lengthy vacancies in three of eight senior management Stipulated Order 1, or SO1, positions, for an executive director, deputy executive director, and division manager for drinking water and wastewater.

The EPA says these positions—and the important minimum qualifications for these positions—are included in the stipulated order to reverse longstanding compliance and public health issues stemming in great part from the lack of qualified management operating the utility.

"CUC has not voiced a plausible strategy for filling these positions," wrote EPA Water Enforcement Section 1 manager Ken Greenberg, in the four-page letter, which also demands, pursuant to court orders, that CUC provide detailed reports to explain their hiring efforts within a 30-day deadline, among others.

The May letter happens to be dated on the same day CUC acting executive director Gary Camacho fired former chief financial officer Matthew Yaquinto without cause, despite ongoing scrutiny from the EPA and the Department of Justice after a June 2, 2015, letter was sent almost a year ago on these hiring vacancies. That June 2015 letter came a month after the CUC's board decided to let go of former executive director Alan Fletcher.

"This [May 25] letter was sent prior to the CFO becoming vacant and EPA is also concerned about that vacancy," EPA press officer Dean Higuchi told *Saipan Tribune*.

"The CFO position is also subject to the hiring procedures outlined in the Stipulated Order," he added.

Camacho did not respond to a request for comment as of press time. He was asked in an email, among others, to explain how firing Yaquinto was in the best interests of the utilities company's ability to meet SO requirements amid ongoing federal government scrutiny and the potential of levying heavy fines to the utility.

"The administration understands that CUC has been issued advice from EPA to provide feedback under the Required Response within 30 days," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' spokesperson Ivan Blanco yesterday. Torres has regularly met with the CUC board and management on its endeavors and issues. "The administration looks forward to work with EPA and CUC to provide such responses as required under the given timeframe," Blanco added.

Unenforced fines stemming from ongoing stipulated order violations, while un-assessed are counted as probable liabilities on CUC's balance sheet, and were reportedly around $36 million in 2014 and are currently estimated to tally over $40 million.

EPA says in view of their concerns, and "CUC's disregard of the court-ordered obligation to timely hire personnel," they are considering assessing stipulated penalties pursuant to the stipulated order. SO1 provides stipulated penalties ranging up to $5,000 per day for failing to implement, achieve, or complete the management structure requirements.

The executive director position, for one, should have been filled by Dec. 10, 2015, the EPA said. The deputy executive director position, vacated on July 15, 2013, should have been filled by Dec. 11, 2013. And the division manager for drinking water and wastewater position, vacated on Sept. 12, 2014, should have been filled by Feb. 8, 2015.

"CUC's daily violation and potential stipulated penalties under this SO1 section are substantial," Greenberg writes in the letter.

Limited hiring to CNMI

"EPA and the United States Department of Justice have repeatedly expressed concerns regarding CUC's inadequate hiring commitment," Greenberg said, noting that as a courtesy earlier this year, the EPA and DOJ met in person with members of CUC.

As part of that discussion, Greenberg said, the CUC board members agreed to "widely re-advertise these key positions" to notify both qualified "local and off-island persons of the positions."

"However, the CUC board soon breached this promise and limited its advertising to CNMI outlets, including for the executive director and deputy executive director positions," Greenberg added.

In addition to causing further delays and failing to meet its promise to the United States, Greenberg said, the CUC board's action conflicts with the June 2 letter and the court-approved Second Joint Stipulation.

"CUC's limited search was also unsuccessful," he added.

Personnel search

The EPA letter reveals that CUC, in its search for an executive director, determined one candidate to be qualified but did not hire the person for yet-to-be-disclosed reasons.

CUC also appeared to push forward a candidate previously deemed by EPA to be unqualified for the job, according to the letter.

On Oct. 7, 2015, CUC submitted four applicants for EPA review, including the one applicant EPA previously determined to be unqualified for this position.

EPA rejected one additional applicant as unqualified, and requested supplemental information from the two remaining applicants.

Based on the supplemental information CUC provided, on Dec. 1 2015, EPA finalized its review and concluded that one of the four applicants was qualified for the executive director position.

"EPA understands the CUC board decided not to hire the qualified candidate, although the CUC board provided no formal notification to EPA of CUC's decision," Greenberg said.

The EPA letter also highlights CUC's deputy executive director, which has been vacant since July 2013 when Fletcher was promoted to executive director. CUC submitted a list of applicants to EPA on September 2014, and February 2014, and EPA approved three applicants as qualified, but this position remains vacant. EPA says they have not received additional applicant submissions since 2014.

On CUC's division manager for drinking water and wastewater, which has been vacant since September 2014, EPA said that in February 2016 CUC submitted one applicant for EPA's review.

EPA said they understood based on reports provided in the CUC board hearing that the candidate has since withdrawn his application. CUC has not submitted additional applicants for consideration.

"Upon review, EPA notes that the candidate submitted his letter of interest fully one year (Feb. 13, 2015) prior to CUC action, a delay the likely affected the candidate's availability," Greenberg said.

UNIFIED

From Page 1

CW permit holders to other visa categories, and supports the hiring of U.S. citizens.

The Chamber, SHRM, and HANMI are set to meet with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) today on the issue.

At the same time, the Chamber announces they are holding a Labor Visa Symposium on June 7, intended to highlight experts in the field and their efforts to help businesses explore the options available for their workforce.

"We encourage our members to make new applications for visas other than the CW-1 program," Palacios said.

Before the business crowd at their general membership meeting, Palacios assured they are working on the issue and continue to seek information.

"…We know that with all this development we still lack the required capacity, the required resources for our economy, and if we lose all our workers, it will be devastating to our economy," she said.

Palacios, in the newsletter, said that the cap on the processing of CW-1 applications and the 10-day period to depart the CNMI are factors that greatly impact the ability to do business in the CNMI.

An immediate solution to these employment issues is essential to prevent the shutdown of business, she said.

The Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 was passed when the CNMI economy was still downswing, Palacios added, noting that new developments in process are substantial in size and will require a considerable number of new employees.

The demand for workers is no longer declining, but is growing at a rapid pace, and even with efforts to hire U.S. citizen workers, the increases in development will increase the need for foreign workers, she said.

DOL

From Page 1

the appropriate H2-B and H1 categories so that it leaves that breathing room for the CW-1 for those who do not qualify for any other visa category," Labor Secretary Edith DeLeon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune*.

"Also, you would want to look at that at the federal level, that perhaps maybe looking at those petitions that are coming in, that if they truly qualify under H2-B maybe some sort of advisement or encouragement to the company that they can process them under H2," she added.

DeLeon Guerrero said that they only issue certain certifications such as the job vacancy announcements and exemptions to the workforce participation

"It's an employer petition. We have no role in that," DeLeon Guerrero said.

"It's beyond us because obviously we don't control immigration anymore, we don't issue the visas so employers go to the petition process, our role is we issue the JVA certification and any other certification that may be sought after by the authorities, otherwise the approval process of the adjudication process is all on the federal government," she added.

Construction workers

The CNMI DOL, however, said it monitors closely those who were granted exemption for workforce participation—or the rule that requires 30 percent of the workforce be local residents or U.S. citizens.

Under the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code Subchapter 80-20.1:Employment Rules and Regulations," the Labor secretary can issue an exemption for a "particular construction project" with "particular" meaning limited to one building or one infrastructure improvement and with "limited duration" meaning two years or less.

So far, the Labor Department has approved 5,284 workers to be exempt in the workforce participation.

These workers are "related to the Grand Mariana project in Garapan" according to DeLeon Guerrero.

While the 1,000 of this total number was just approved recently and can be assumed that "it is not eating up the current cap," the earlier approved 4,284 might be.

DeLeon Guerrero said they will be looking at that data to see if those workers were already petitioned and if the employer went through the process.

"If they're coming from China, then obviously, they are not part of the eligible list of countries [for H visa] so logically, you can see where it's going to go. It's going to eat into the allocation of CW-1 visa," DeLeon Guerrero said.

"We will be looking on the quarterly workforce listing based on the exemptions that are issued to certain companies," she added.

Based on their earlier tally, there were 1,251 construction workers in the CNMI, a number of which can be petitioned under H2-B since they are Filipinos.

DeLeon Guerrero said she is hopeful that the 902 talks will be fruitful and that there will be an immediate remedy to the current issue that the Commonwealth is facing.

"We all hope for something good to come out of the 902 conversations and discussions," DeLeon Guerrero said.

"I personally feel, I'm confident that there will be some remedy to address the issue that we're facing," she added.

PAL open to have routes via Japan if granted authority

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

Gozon

Philippine Airlines, soon to fly direct Manila-Saipan, is open to the idea of flying a route through Japan should they be given the authority to do so.

According to PAL senior vice president for airline operations Ismael Augusto Gozon, the route would be subject to negotiations between the two countries.

"So long as we're given freedom traffic between the two countries, that might be a possibility," Gozon said.

"But that's also subject to negotiations between the Philippines, Japan, the Saipan government or the U.S. government in general if that could be given," he added.

According to Gozon, it all depends on getting rights to fly between the two points: Japan and Saipan.

"If that's an opportunity for us, obviously we'd like to take it," Gozon said.

PAL has been given rights to fly between the Philippines, Taiwan, and Japan and will start with its Manila-Taipei-Osaka route also in June.

To ensure traffic to and from Saipan and Manila, Gozon said it is important to promote and to know the destination and features of both places as well as have the support of the tourism agencies.

"By having and knowing these things in both countries, we believe that's what will spur on the travel," Gozon said.

"The idea for Philippine Airlines is to promote the Philippines as a country—not only Manila as a destination. We have beautiful sceneries in the Philippines and we have asked the Department of Tourism to be our partner in promoting the Philippines to the different parts of the world, Saipan included," he added.

"For Saipan, we wanted ourselves to be known in this country as linking Saipan to the Philippines," Gozon added, "In the recent event in the Philippines, we felt the support not only of Century Travel but also of the travel bureau, MVA (Marianas Visistors Authority)."

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Life In Motion

Ex-convict allegedly steals truck parts, then truck itself

An ex-convict was arrested again on Friday, this time for allegedly stealing tires and other parts of a pickup truck and eventually the truck itself from a dive shop in Susupe.

Thomas T. Matsunaga, 51, was arrested on Friday in Kannat Tabla for theft and theft of vehicle.

It was Matsunaga's brother who called police because the victim is his tenant. The brother also complained that the suspect stole two of his 18,000 BTU split-type air-conditioners and three window-type air-conditioners.

Police later traced the stolen red Toyota T100 to an auto repair shop in Illiyan, where they found out that they towed the truck after Matsunaga sold it for $350.

At a hearing on Tuesday, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo retained the $20,000 cash bail that was earlier imposed on Matsunaga.

Preliminary hearing will be on June 7 at 1:30pm.

Govendo learned that there is an outstanding bench warrant issued against Matsunaga on June 23, 2015, for failing to appear at his review hearing in his previous criminal conviction.

Govendo ordered the defendant to appear at the review hearing on Aug. 16, 2016, at 9am.

Chief public defender Douglas Hartig was appointed as counsel for Matsunaga. Assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley appeared for the government.

Police Detective Daniel Maliuyaf stated in his report that last May 20, a police officer was dispatched to a house in Susupe after Matsunaga's brother sought police assistance.

According to the brother, on May 20 at 8am, his Korean tenant called him to complain that the rear end of his red Toyota T100 was stolen.

The brother learned that Matsunaga sold the rear end of the T100 to a person in Chalan Kanoa.

Last May 24, the Korean tenant called again his landlord (Matsunaga's brother) that this time the entire T 100 truck was missing.

Some witnesses saw a tow truck pulling the red T100 from the house.

Maliuyaf said that during his interview the Korean tenant stated that he went to his dive shop at Matsunaga's property in Susupe to take his diving gear last May 20.

The tenant noticed that his truck's rear differential and rear tires were missing. He also found out that the truck's transmission was also gone.

The tenant then called his landlord (Matsunaga's brother).

The brother then learned that his air-conditioners were also stolen.

The brother then called the police.

Last May 24 at 7am, the tenant came to the shop and found out that the entire truck was missing.

The tenant also discovered that other items such as diving gear were stolen from the shop. The Korean is worried that his two boats might also be stolen.

Police learned that it was Matsunaga who called an auto repair shop and sold the truck for $350. The shop bought the truck to use its parts.

The shop didn't think that there's problem with the truck because it was parked at Matsunaga's residence. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Alvarez sues ex-employers for allegedly refusing to transfer company shares

Manuel Alvarez filed yesterday a lawsuit in federal court against his former employers for allegedly refusing to transfer the shares of the company promised to him and for refusing to pay him proper wages and overtime.

Alvarez, through counsel Mark Scoggins, is suing Seahorse Inc. and its owner, Shao Walker, for violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act, violation of CNMI Wage and Hour Act, breaches of contract, and conversion.

Alvarez asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to hold the defendants liable to pay him damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

Saipan Tribune tried but failed to contact Walker for her comment.

According to Scoggins in the complaint, in 2005 Seahorse was incorporated as a business primarily engaged in tourism and marine sports on Saipan.

Scoggins said Alvarez contributed equipment, labor, expertise, and experience to Seahorse's establishment.

Scoggins said Walker contributed money to the company.

The lawyer said at the time of the incorporation of Seahorse, Alvarez and Walker agreed that Alvarez would receive half of the shares in the corporation after 10 years of operation.

From the time of incorporation, Alvarez was an employee of Seahorse, Scoggins said.

Scoggins said Alvarez worked at least 12 hours per day, six days a week, and six hours every Sunday.

The lawyer said for the first nine years of his employment, it was agreed that Alvarez would be paid $35 per day, but that he would actually only receive $25 per day with the remaining $10 per day held back for exigencies such as medical travel or other unexpected expenses.

For roughly the final year of Alvarez's employment, Scoggins said, he was paid $400 per week.

Scoggins said in some months, plaintiff would also receive an additional $200 for work performed for Walker's other companies.

The lawyer said at no time during his employment, Alvarez was properly compensated and paid overtime.

Scoggins said that in February of 2015, after roughly 10 years of Seahorse business activity, Alvarez asked Walker for half of the Seahorse shares as she had promised.

Scoggins said Walker refused to transfer the shares as promised.

In late 2015, Alvarez became ill and needed medical attention off-island.

Scoggins said when Alvarez requested that the company pay for the medical treatment, persons working on behalf of Walker attempted to force Alvarez to sign over title to certain property in exchange for the travel expenses.

Walker allegedly refused to provide the travel expenses to Alvarez.

Scoggins said when Alvarez returned from his first trip to the Philippines, he found that Walker had changed the locks on Alvarez's living quarters and personal office.

This, Scoggins said, converted all of the personal property belonging to Alvarez, and effectively making him homeless.

Scoggins said despite demands, Walker still has not allowed Alvarez to return to his living quarters and office, nor has she allowed him to retrieve his property.

Scoggins said Walker and Seahorse used the profits and proceeds from Seahorse to start other businesses. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP16-COTA/FTA-123

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 14, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE RENTAL FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY (COTA)"

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON AFTER, MAY 19, 2016 AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING WILL BE ON JUNE 03, 2016 AT 10:00A.M. AT THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY (COTA) CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR AT THE NMI RETIREMENT FUND BUILDING, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN ANY PROPOSAL IF, IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ALFREDA P. CAMACHO
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-COTA/FTA-124

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 10, 2016 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TWENTY (20) 2-WAY HANDHELD RADIO UNITS, ONE (1) BASE RADIO AND LAND MOBILE RADIO AND ACCESSORIES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE TRANSIT AUTHORITY"

THE SPECIFICATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON AFTER, MAY 19, 2016 AT COTA, OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, 2ND FLOOR, NMI RETIREMENT FUND BUILDING, ISA DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; BIDDERS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH FTA FEDERAL CONTRACT CLAUSES AS APPLICABLE.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IF, ITS OPINION TO DO SO, WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ALFREDA P. CAMACHO
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

Housekeeping Cleaner (2)
Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent. Minimum of 6 months work experience in a hotel is preferred. Able to speak and write English. Ability to speak foreign Language is a plus. Good customer service skills are essential. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, Holidays, weekends and nights. Must be able to lift and carry heavy objects.

Accounting Analyst Accounts Payable Disbursements (1)
Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, major in accounting preferred or three (3) years work experience within the field preferably from a high volume hotel operations. Is responsible for coordinating and maintaining accounts payable from receipt of source documents to reconciliation of transactions to General Ledger and disbursements. Must be proficient in SAP, Microsoft Office applications and other software. Must be able to work flexible schedule on occasions including weekends and holidays.

Interested applicants may obtain and submit application form from our security office located at the South Wing. To be considered, all applications must be submitted no later than June 5, 2016. Background check and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

JOE HILL, Esq.,
HILL LAW OFFICES
P.O. box 500917, Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: (670) 234-6806/7743
FAX: (670) 234-7753

Attorney for Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

TIANRONG YANG SABLAN
Petitioner,
Versus
JOSEPH JR. D. SABLAN
Respondent

FCD DI
CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0182

SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONDED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Petition for Divorce which is given you herewith, within (30) days after service of the Summons upon you.

YOUR ANSWER SHOULD BE IN WRITING and filed with the Clerk of Court, Guma Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950 and served upon petitioner's counsel, Atty. Joe Hill, P.O. Box 500917, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Divorce.

By order of the above Court:

Dated this 4th day of May, 2016.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court
Superior Court

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No. 16-027

Opening Date: Wednesday, June 01, 2016
Closing Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Human Resources Generalist (IT Specialist)

DUTIES: Under the direct supervision of the Human Resources Manager or his/her designee. Gathers and analyzes pertinent employee information. Inputs data into system in a timely matter monitors and maintain information stored in data system and update data whenever it is needed. Generates all daily reports in a timely matter, i.e., daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, and annual reports to the immediate HR manager. Maintains and updates electronic and paper documents for the purpose of public information, trainings, meetings, case management and client information to the HR Manager. Responsible for keeping and organizing of filing system of all incoming and outgoing correspondences. Compiles and assist HR Manager in preparation and finalization of letters, memos and reports for each division. Prepares request for personnel actions for signature of approving authority. Assists and/or participates in the preparation of applications and other documents and forms. Provides technical, analysis, research assistance of computer activities, problems, and issues. Familiarize and be able to maintains electronic technology provided by the department such as printers, fax, scanners, etc.. Must be able to troubleshoot certain issues pertaining to electronics. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION : Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : $37,756.00 to $50,970.00 per annum.
(Salary is negotiable based on qualification and experience.)
POSITIONS : One (1).
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Education: Bachelor's degree in Information Technology or directly related field and 4 years of general professional human resource-related experience; or, an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties of the job such as those listed above. Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Human Resource principles and practices; Program administration principles; Customer service principles; Mathematical concepts; Research methods; Database and records management principles; Modern office technology. Skill In: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Administering and monitoring programs, policies and processes; Coordinating the implementation of human resource services; Researching and analyzing program-related data and resource information; Providing customer service; Interpreting policies and providing relevant information and guidance; Prioritizing work in order to meet time-sensitive program deadlines; Tracking and auditing data, forms, records and documentation; Preparing reports, correspondence, and program support materials; Updating and maintaining information systems and confidential records; Coordinating and assisting with projects; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.. Subject to a pre-employment drug screening.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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FERDIE DE LA TORRE
Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services Commissioner Claudio Norita, standing extreme right, poses for a group photo yesterday with South Dakota Businesses instructors Dave Boer, standing second left, and Travis Spier, standing third left, and the eight Saipan firefighters who are now certified instructors for pre-hospital trauma life support, pediatric education for pre-hospital professional, and emergency medical technician. Firefighter Daniel R. Suel, standing extreme left, also received recertification for the same courses.

8 Saipan firefighters are now certified INSTRUCTORS

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Eight Saipan firefighters have been certified as new instructors for pre-hospital trauma life support, pediatric education for pre-hospital professional, and emergency medical technician.

The new instructors are Firefighters Daverrick Camacho, Adam Safer, Shawn Kaipat, Robert Cruz, Richard Manalo, Joshua Sablan, Christino George, and Sixto Aquino.

Firefighter Daniel R. Suel also received recertification for the same courses.

It means that the new instructors are now holding a national standard certification and are recognized nationally.

South Dakota Businesses instructors Dave Boer and Travis Spier conducted the five-day training. The two are also conducting basic certification of the fire cadets at the ongoing academy.

Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services Commissioner Claudio Norita, in an interview yesterday, said every three to four years, Boer and Spier would come to Saipan and certify firefighters to be national registered emergency medical technician (EMT) instructors.

"All of our firefighters are EMTs. And they have expiration. So they have in-service training," Norita said.

Norita said they brought Boer and Spier to certify instructors to teach the firefighters in the CNMI.

Spier said during the five-day training, they focused on EMT instructor component as well as on trauma care and on pediatrics.

Spier said they gave the firefighters the foundation and techniques on being successful instructors.

"They did very well. Their performance was exceptional. Their interaction with the students was very good. Their test was really good," said Spier, who has been on the island three times.

Spier is a paramedic and a nurse.

Boer, who is also a paramedic and EMS consultant, has been on the island 10 times.

Boer said their whole goal is to make firefighters in the CNMI self-sufficient so they can do their own training here.

"So we're doing instructor training so they can take care of their own training needs," he said.

Boer said the training is important so that the CNMI will not have to pay money for people like them to come all the way from Dakota.

He said the newly certified instructors have now the same credentials as anyone in the states.

"It's a tough course. It takes a lot of hours. But they all did very well. We are proud to help them get through this," Boer said.

He stressed that their business is to make people self-sufficient.

"They're capable of taking care of their own training here for the people now. And that's our goal was," he added.

Boer said there are 38 cadets in the academy right now so they need more instructors to meet national standards for these people.

Places to go.
Memories to create.

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Origin	Destination	Midweek Fares Starting At	Weekend Fares Starting At	Min Stay	Max Stay	Outbound Travel	Last Ticket Purchase Date
Guam/Saipan	**Hawaii**	$1,118.05	$1,198.05	5 days	30 days	SEP 16, 2016 - DEC 14, 2016 JAN 16, 2017 - APR 30, 2017	AUG 31, 2016
Guam/Saipan	**Western U.S. Cities**	$1,187.05	$1,267.05	5 days	30 days	SEP 16, 2016 - DEC 14, 2016 JAN 16, 2017 - APR 30, 2017	AUG 31, 2016
Guam/Saipan	**Eastern U.S. Cities**	$1,347.05	$1,427.05	5 days	30 days	SEP 16, 2016 - DEC 14, 2016 JAN 16, 2017 - APR 30, 2017	AUG 31, 2016

Ticketing requirements: Tickets must be issued within 3 days after reservations are made or at least 7 days prior to scheduled departure, whichever is earlier, but no later than August 31, 2016. The itinerary must include travel between Guam and Honolulu on one of the following flights, UA 200 & UA 201. Travel via Japan is not permitted. Use promo code FHB16B for fare details. Requirements based on fare rules. Fares are subject to change.

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Terms and Conditions: Tickets must be issued by 8/31/16 to be eligible for discount. Discount is valid when payment is made with a First Hawaiian Bank United MileagePlus credit card. Offer is valid only against market published structured fares for roundtrip travel from Guam and Northern Marianas to the U.S. Discount applies to Economy and Business class tickets. Other discounts and travel certificates cannot be combined and are not applicable. Rules on published fare apply to ticket purchased. Offer is valid for ticket originating and issuance in Guam and Northern Marianas only. The itinerary must include travel between Guam and Honolulu on one of the following flights, UA 200 & UA 201. Travel via Japan is not permitted. Discount not applicable to prior purchases. Discount does not apply to any taxes, fees, or surcharges. Offer is applicable to ticketing at united.com, United Airlines® city ticket office or your local travel agency with offer code FHB16B. Ticketing Service fee of $30 applies for ticket issuance through United Airlines® city ticket office. Requirements based on fare rules. Fares are subject to change.

For United Airlines® ticketing agent, refer to CORE Reservations>Promos and Communications > FHB.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No. 16-028

Opening Date: Thursday, June 02, 2016
Closing Date: Until Filled.

Chief Financial Officer

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") is seeking for a qualified Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"). CUC is a public utility corporation located on the island of Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI")—a United States territory in the northwestern Pacific Ocean.

The CNMI is a tropical paradise of fourteen islands. In the CNMI you can escape to a place of magnificent beaches and crystal clear aqua waters, and rich history. Saipan offers year-round outdoor activities, world class diving and golfing, international shopping, a range of ethnic restaurants and a cacophony of indigenous and international cultures.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITY OFFERED:

Reporting directly to CUC's Executive Director or designee, the Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") works directly with the Deputy Executive Director ("DED"). The CFO fills a position required by the Stipulated Order ("SO") of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Civil Case No. CV 08-0051.

- Responsible for the overall accounting, budgeting, and financial operations of CUC.
- Supervises professional and support staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff are trained; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations.
- Maintains the financial and budget records and accounts of CUC.
- Performs financial, budget and rate analyses of operations and revenues; makes recommendations for adjustments to rates.
- Develops, implements and enforces financial and budget policies and procedures.
- Prepares complex financial and budget reports and special reports as requested by the Board.
- Schedules and coordinates annual audits with independent contractors.
- Prepares an annual report of the financial condition of CUC.
- Plans, implements and monitors short and long-term goals for the department and CUC.
- Other duties of a similar nature or level as assigned or required.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Successful candidates for CUC's Chief Financial Officer must have the following:

- Education:
  - o Bachelor's degree in accounting or financial management from a United States accredited institution or one with equivalent accreditation;
- Experience:
  - o Ten (10) years of professional experience in governmental or financial accounting, including experience in a supervisory and/or management position.
- Certification and Licensing:
  - o A Certified Public Accountant or Certified Management Accountant is desired.
  - o Ability to obtain and maintain a CNMI driver's license of the appropriate class upon hire is required.
- Must demonstrate the following:
  - o Thorough knowledge of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, as well as Financial Accounting Standards Board and Government Accounting Standards Board pronouncements and interpretations, auditing principles, and utility rate structures and rate setting principles and methods;
  - o Working knowledge of automated financial systems and programs to manage all aspects of reporting, personnel management and training;
  - o General knowledge of utility operations, debt collection practices, and limitations.
- Knowledge of:
  - o Supervisory principles;
  - o Managerial and leadership principles;
  - o Generally Accepted Accounting Principles or other applicable laws, rules and regulations;
  - o Budgetary principles;
  - o Financial principles;
  - o Mathematical principles.
- Skill in:
  - o Monitoring and evaluating staff;
  - o Prioritizing and assigning work to staff;
  - o Applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations;
  - o Applying accounting procedures and principles;
  - o Developing and implementing procedures and standards;
  - o Analyzing accounting transactions;
  - o Preparing and analyzing financial statements, budgets and reports;
  - o Establishing internal control and compliance systems and information systems;
  - o Conducting cost-benefit analysis;
  - o Preparing annual reports;
  - o Estimating costs for projects;
  - o Analyzing and setting rates;
  - o Using computers and related software applications;
  - o Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

LOCATION: Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY INFORMATION: Based on credentials and specialized experience and whether applicant has a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or Certified Management Accountant (CMA) designation in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, and/or the District of Columbia.

POSITION: One (1).

CONTRACT: Two-year; subject to renewal.

RELOCATION EXPENSES: If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

SUBMISSION PROCESS: Please submit (1) a cover letter, (2) a resume, (3) a list of references, and (4) a CUC Employment Application by one of the following means:

1. United States Postal Service, First Class Mail or Priority Mail*:
   Human Resource Office
   Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
   P. O. Box 501220
   Saipan, MP 96950-1220 USA

   *If you choose to submit via USPS, please still also fax "or" email "or" drop off your package.
2. Fax: 670-235-5131
3. Email: employment.applications@cucgov.org
4. Drop Off: Drop off your package at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the CUC Tinian or Rota Administration Office.

POLICIES: The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer and will not discriminate or tolerate discrimination against any employee or applicant in any manner prohibited by law.

It is also the policy of CUC to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment.

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BECQ REPORTS:

Almost 50,000 cubic yards of Soudelor-related waste collected

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

A total of 49,388 cubic yards of green waste, tin, and lumber have been collected at different Typhoon Soudelor Debris Staging sites around the island.

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Exactly 10 months after Typhoon Soudelor, the cleanup continues for the island and wastes are still being collected.

At the Typhoon Soudelor Debris Staging sites, a total of 49,388 cubic yards of green waste, tin, and lumber were collected.

The As Gonno staging site, which was closed in April, collected a total of 13,155 cubic yards of debris. At the Kagman staging site, which remains open for the Saipan Mayor's Office, a total of 36,233 cubic yards of debris, majority being green waste was collected so far.

"We closed down As Gonno in the last month, so the entire site has been cleaned up. It's actually a lot better that it was before we started to use it," Division of Environmental Quality director Ray Masga said. "DPW (Department of Public Works) has done a great job in removing all of the waste."

"There's no more debris that is being brought over to that site," he added.

For Kagman, DPW completed the removal of the tin debris and lumber last week.

"We are going to maintain the site open for the next two weeks or so, until the end of May," Masga said. "The Mayor's Office is still out there collecting green waste, Typhoon Soudelor-related."

Masga reminded the public, however, that the staging sites are closed to the public.

"We would like to notify the public that over the past month or so, there has been illegal dumping around the site and DPW has done a great job in removing those illegally disposed solid waste. But we want to notify the public that any future illegal dumping at the site will be taken action on," Masga said.

The government has spent an estimated $200,000 to close down both sites for equipment, personnel, rentals, and other expenses.

CUC sets emergency water service interruptions

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the general public that there are emergency water service interruptions as follows:

Chalan Pale Arnold Road and Beach Road

Chalan Laulau customers in Chalan Pale Amold Road and Beach Road, Chalan Laulau, are experiencing an emergency water service interruptions due to a booster pump failure. The pump failure was discovered at 7pm on Tuesday, May 31, 2016. Water operations personnel are currently addressing the issue and repairs are anticipated to be completed today. Customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of services by tomorrow.

China Town and Navy Hill

Customers in China Town and Navy Hill are also experiencing an emergency water service interruptions resulting from two pump failures in the Sadog Tasi area.

Water operations personnel restored one of the wells Tuesday, May 31 , 2016, and are currently working on the repair of the second well. It is anticipated that the repair work on the second well will be completed yesterday and customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of services soon thereafter.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates thttps://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(PR)***

Man'amko, Best Sunshine Celebrate *Partnership*

Best Sunshine International majority shareholder Margaret Cui Lijie received a warm embrace from a man'amko in appreciation to her continued support to the Office on Aging.

In a kind gesture, Cui Lijie, hands out Best Sunshine shirts to man'amko from Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

Madam Cui celebrates with the man'amko.

Man'amkos and Madam Cui at last Friday's annual Office on Aging conference.

BEST Sunshine International and its majority shareholder's commitment to worthy community causes continue to make a tremendous difference in the lives of countless people they have touched.

At a luncheon following the "Conference on Aging" last Friday, the agency's director Walter Manglona acknowledged how BSI and Margaret Cui Lijie, its majority shareholder, never ceases to extend their support to the islands' elderly community.

Manglona hailed Office on Aging's partnership with BSI, the largest private sector employee in the commonwealth.

"For us, it's always a blessing when you (BSI) contribute this way. It's always something that we don't expect (for) any businesses to be contributing (such as) Best Sunshine," Manglona said in a statement. "For us to be able to say that we appreciate it is an understatement. It's a lot more."

"That's why when I commented to Madam Cui— I mentioned that for the things you guys do for us here at the center, it feels more like a partnership and something you… have contributed throughout the few months (BSI) have been around," Manglona added.

The luncheon was hosted by the company's Corporate Social Responsibility department. This was part of their quarterly activity for the Man'amkos. The event also saw the participation of Rota and Tinian Office on Aging.

Best Sunshine majority shareholder Margaret Cui Lijie poses with Aging Center Director Walter Manglona and the president of the Saipan Seniors Advisory Council Joaquina Mendiola.

Joining Lijie in celebrating with the mana'amko was Chief Services Officer Tao Xing, CSR Executive Director Rita Chong and her team.

Live musical entertainment was also provided by the CSR team.

Lijie, in special gesture, personally handed out a Best Sunshine t-shirt to each man'amko.

She also sang a meaningful Chinese song called "Mother".

The president of the Saipan Senior Advisory Council, Joaquina Mendiola, thanked the company and Lijie.

"I would like to say thank you very much for all the things that we have received during this month of May and especially today in the conference of aging that comes from Best Sunshine. I appreciate it and I know we are all very grateful for it. Thank you, Best Sunshine," she said.

Tinian's Office on Aging's resident director of Tinian, Evelyn Fleming David, echoed similar appreciation, "We're extending un dangkulu na si yu'us ma'ase. Thank you very much from the people of Tinian and most of all the senior citizens in Tinian."

Antonia Reynolds, who represented Rota, agrees: "We're giving our best regards to Madame Cui and Best Sunshine for all the things they have done for our manamko. Our hearts are open for Best Sunshine. Thank you so much." (***PR***)

Paying tribute to mothers, BSI majority shareholder Madam Cui sang a song titled "Mother", which highlights the hard work of all mothers.

Celebrating their partnership, Man'amko and Office on Aging staff gather with BSI's Madam Cui in a group photo.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVI, Issue No. 109

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MEMBER
The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Silence on climate change

What may be the most pressing issue of our time deserves more attention in the presidential race.

With the exception of a handful of quacks and deniers, the vast majority of scientists believe that human activity—primarily the burning of fossil fuels—is driving up temperatures around the world, and that the pace of global warming is accelerating faster than earlier believed. Warmer temperatures unleash more extreme weather systems, exacerbate drought cycles, and melt the poles and glaciers, leading to rising sea levels that in the not-distant future will have disastrous effects, such as swamping swaths of Bangladesh, submerging the Marshall Islands and flooding low-lying coasts around the U.S.

The scientific evidence is clear: Change is already happening. Record-high temperatures in the Arctic in January and February were described by one scientist as "startling." World temperatures in February set a record so far above the previous one that a researcher referred to it as a "shocking" increase. After that, March and April exceeded that record gap by even wider margins, making it nearly inevitable that 2016 will be the warmest year on record (just as 2014 and 2015 were).

Climate change is, as U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon recently put it, "one of the most crucial problems on Earth." Yet the issue has been largely absent from the current presidential campaign. We'd like to say that is surprising, but unfortunately it is to be expected. Like many Republicans, Donald Trump denies climate change even exists, which should serve as further proof, if more is needed, that he is unqualified to run the country. Democrats Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders both believe the science and have issued detailed proposals for increasing solar and other renewable energy sources while throttling back our reliance on fossil fuels. And they both recognize the absolute necessity for the U.S. to lead the world in efforts to limit the looming damage as much as is possible. But they too realize that climate change is not good campaign material: It's depressing, it's complicated, it's hard for voters to comprehend, its solutions are scary because they require lifestyles changes and personal sacrifice.

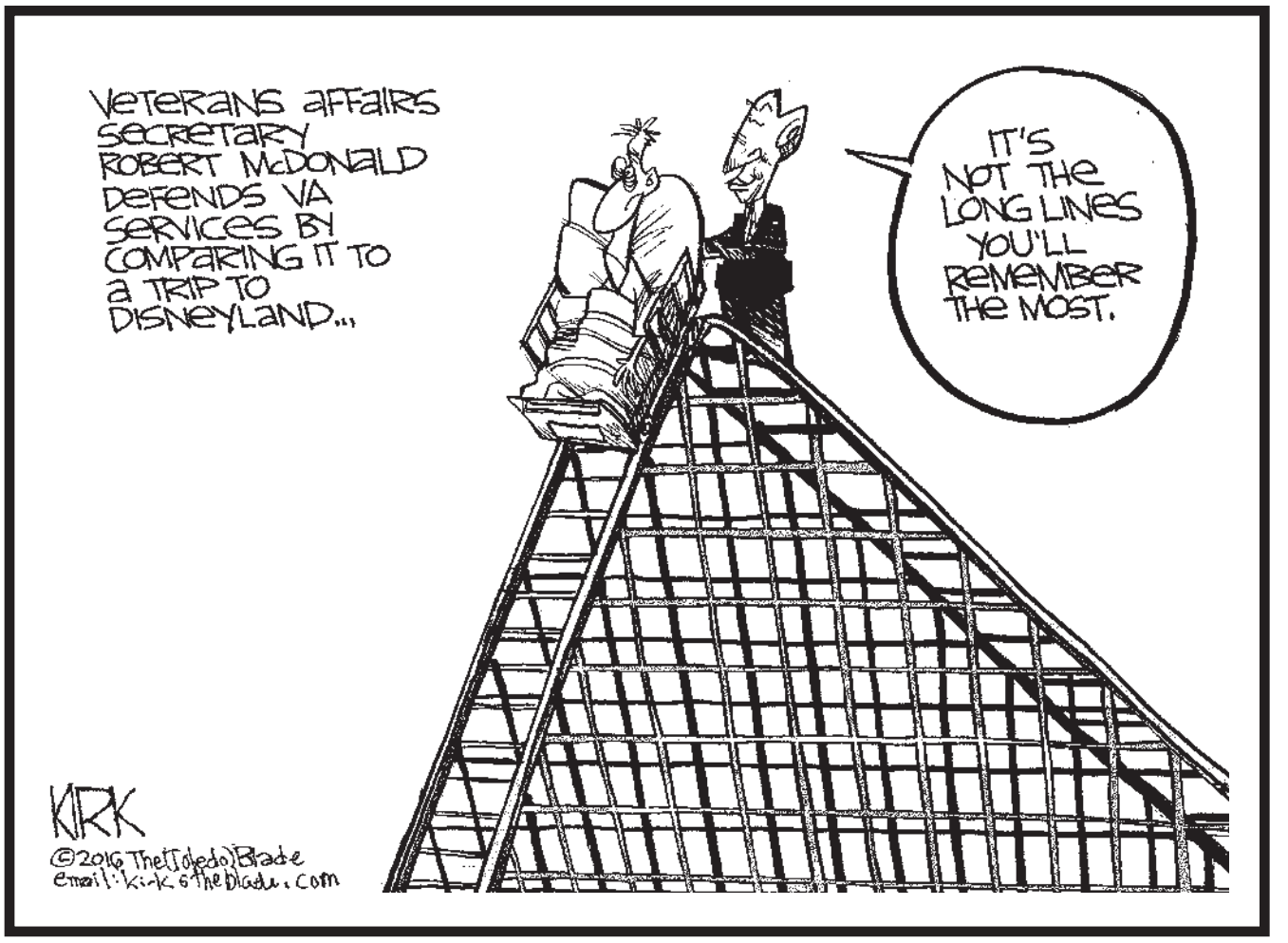
So what forms the core of our political discourse instead? It's ranged from the size of Trump's, uh, hands to whether Clinton enabled her husband's philandering to how to make Mexico pay for a wall the length of the border, along with international trade agreements, under what circumstances the military should be deployed, and whether the multination deal with Iran to freeze its nuclear program was wise or foolish.

Climate change barely resonates. An assessment in March by Media Matters found that across 20 debates among candidates in both major parties, global warming accounted for only 1.5 percent of the questions asked — 22 out of 1,477 questions. Nearly a third of the questions came in two Florida debates after some of that states' mayors asked that the issue be addressed. And voters haven't particularly cared, either. A February Gallup poll found climate change low on the list of issues that voters say matter to them — especially for Republicans, for whom it was the least-significant issue included in the survey.

That's a lot of heads in the sand — dangerously so if the sand happens to be near the rising seas.

The globe is teetering on the edge of catastrophic change. Nearly 200 nations agreed in Paris six months ago to work together to stop global temperatures from rising more than 2

See SILENCE on Next Page


VETERANS AFFAIRS SECRETARY ROBERT McDONALD DEFENDS VA SERVICES BY COMPARING IT TO A TRIP TO DISNEYLAND...
IT'S NOT THE LONG LINES YOU'LL REMEMBER THE MOST.
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All zoos can learn lessons from gorilla enclosure tragedy

By CARLA HALL
Los Angeles Times

Carla Hall is a member of the editorial board at the Los Angeles Times*. Readers may email her at carla.hall@latimes.com*

The killing of an endangered western lowland gorilla at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden on Saturday after a child fell into the enclosure was a tragic event. Was there another way to go? Probably not at that moment. But there may be precautions that the zoo—all zoos—can take to prevent a similar occurrence in the future. And parents need to be more careful as well. The zoo is not a playground.

On Saturday afternoon, a boy climbed over a 3-foot barrier fence, then made his way through about four feet of bushes before falling 15 feet into a moat in the Gorilla World habitat, according to accounts. Zoo staff called the gorillas out of the exhibit. Two females complied, but Harambe, a silverback male gorilla who had turned 17 the day before, remained in the exhibit and went over to the child.

Cellphone video of the incident, shot by a zoo visitor, is mesmerizing and terrifying at the same time. As the screams of visitors above the moat pierce the air, the gorilla looks up, seemingly startled. The gorilla, weighing more than 420 pounds, stands over the tiny boy, then takes him at one point and gently props him up on his feet. Then suddenly, the gorilla grabs him by the ankle and sets off at a fast clip through the shallow moat, dragging the boy along. Does he think the boy is a toy to play with? A small animal to protect? Or one to pounce on eventually?

"The gorilla was clearly agitated; the gorilla was clearly disoriented," zoo director Thane Maynard said at a news conference Monday. Whether the gorilla intended to hurt the boy was less an issue than the fact that he simply could do so by the brute force of swinging him around.

"His arms are as big as our legs," said Maynard on Monday. "They have huge hands, extremely strong. And that was the risk."

The zoo's Dangerous Animal Response Team chose not to shoot a tranquilizing dart at the gorilla—lest that agitate him more—but to kill him with a single rifle shot. The child, who initially was taken to a hospital, is reportedly fine and at home.

The gorilla's death leaves the zoo with only one genetically valuable male silverback. There are 10 gorillas at the zoo.

Meanwhile, people have left notes and flowers at the gorilla statue at the entrance to the gorilla exhibit.

According to reports from bystanders, the child was with his mother and a few other children. Did an adult get distracted? Did the curious boy quickly slip away? Maybe both. On social media, animal lovers are angry that a parent may have been careless enough to let her son slip into an enclosure, precipitating the death of this animal. In just a couple of days, a Facebook group called "Justice for Harambe" has gotten more than 100,000 "likes." A Change.org petition asking for an investigation into the child's home environment has more than a quarter of a million signatures.

Whether you think that's necessary, the point is this: A moment that was probably careless on the part of a parent had devastating consequences for the animal, for the zoo, for conservation.

I heard a thoughtful animal-welfare advocate on CNN over the weekend suggest that zoos have a minimum age for visitors at exhibits. I wouldn't go that far. The best zoos today provide unique—and affordable—educational and recreational opportunities for families. Every time I am at the LA Zoo, I am struck by the range of ages of visitors— parents with children in strollers, toddlers, schoolchildren, young couples holding hands, older people.

That said, it's imperative that parents and other adults minding children remember that the zoo is not a giant playground where children can run freely and every structure is there for the climbing. As animal conservationist Jeff Corwin said this weekend, "The zoo is not your babysitter." Perhaps zoos should have staff and volunteers stationed at various exhibits to monitor visitors and stop them from going where they shouldn't or harassing animals.

Most zoos have series of barriers — fencing, glass, landscaping and naturalistic features — that make it quite a challenge to get all the way to a dangerous wild animal. But no boundary is perfect. At a zoo in Santiago, Chile, recently, a suicidal man got into a lion enclosure. The lion nearly mauled him to death before zoo staff killed the lion.

And it works the other way. Clever chimps figure ways out of enclosures. A tiger at the San Francisco Zoo several years ago leapt out of its grotto and mauled to death a young man who had been seen taunting the tiger. In all these cases, zoos had to reconfigure barriers.

"It's really complex," said Wayne Pacelle, CEO of the Humane Society of the U.S. "People get into enclosures, and that's where parenting and supervision, as well as architecture and design, have to be in the forefront of our thinking."

The Cincinnati Zoo, which has exhibited gorillas for decades and has had a spurt of successful births of young gorillas in re-

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Cincinnati Zoo did the right thing to protect child

You want to know why people often laugh at animal rights activists? It's because those extremists have no idea of what the real world is like. Their sense of reality is warped.

Case in point: The gorilla who was shot at the Cincinnati Zoo so that a child could be saved.

You've seen the video over and over the past few days. You've seen how the 4-year-old boy fell into the gorilla enclosure. You've seen the 400-pound gorilla, Harambe, grabbing the boy by his ankles and dragging him around a moat.

Before the gorilla could do something that would result in the boy's death, the staff at the zoo shot and killed the gorilla.

They made the right decision. No doubt about it. No second guessing. They did what they had to do. Bravo.

But now you have activists screaming and yelling about the gorilla's death.

They say the zoo staff should have used a tranquilizer instead of killing Harambe.

Nice thought, except the child could have been dead before the tranquilizer started to work.

Ron Magill, communication director at Zoo Miami, knows more about animals than you, or I, or any of the activists who have been marching with signs.

Magill, who loves wild animals passionately, said the zoo made the right decision.

Every other zoo official across the country who has been asked has said the same thing.

But you have the extremists like PETA and other activists howling about the death of this gorilla. Would have they have marched and screamed for the kid if he had been injured badly, or worse?

By GARY STEIN
Sun Sentinel

Gary Stein is a columnist for the Sun Sentinel*. Readers may email him at gstein@sunsentinel.com*

Meanwhile, the child is going to be OK. And the protests and online anger continue.

Are these activists nuts or what?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The disrespectful hating sore losers

Francisco R. Agulto, Lee Andersen, and Thomas D. Arkle Jr.—stop hating—as my students would say to haters. I wanted the entire CNMI to know that you are simply disrespectful, hating sore losers from this past election.

You are still promoting your ugly politic and fighting against anything that I say—give us a break as people can see you hating on me! I forgot it was a pack of them like those little furry creatures we find in the sewers. I don't know who the leader is but Lee Andersen takes first place followed by Francisco R. Agulto in second with Thomas D. Ankle Jr. in third for the recent disrespect and hating award in the news. I'm sure there are a few more on them figuratively spreading filth and disease (ugliness and misinformation) they just didn't come out to attack me. I'm just glad they don't realize why decent and respectful people don't get involved in their issues and I'm not telling just let them keep wallowing in their own filth alone. Who do they think they are fooling with their complements to each other? We the people are not idiots and the joke on them-ha!

But it is Francisco R. Agulto that I want to start with as he was the last to attack me instead of addressing the issue of an alternative for the people of Rota if not the loan. It seems that Francisco and none of these guys seem to get it that a loan is not a government appropriation and I couldn't find anything in the constitution about the government loaning money! It seems that everyone in this "sore loser pack" is just complaining one thing after another but don't have two cents to offer that will help to reach an amicable solution.

Francisco, Lee, Arkle and especially keeping straight who is a follower—ha ha along with a few others need to put your skills to better use and stop the complaining about the $400K and for another election of your time and choosing as if the attorney general and the governor don't know the law and what they are doing. The attorney general is not only an attorney, but an honorable former judge. I think most of the decent and respectable people with common sense are respecting the decision of the Attorney General who hasn't responded to the unfounded request for a special election. The attorney general is free of all political ties and must make decisions based on the law so please stop getting livid and making false assertions when the AG makes an unfavorable decision about the law. Leave the law to our AG and trust in his knowledge and experience, that's what he was elected to do, not you guys. He has one of the most difficult jobs in the CNMI that is dictated by the law, not what anyone else wants, especially what the "sore loser pack" wants.

Francisco also had the nerve to accuse me of a poorly thought out statement when his writing is more like thoughtless gibberish full of dichotomies. Where did you learn English Francisco and stop using the thesaurus because you try to use a big technical vocabulary that is not used by the average person and much of your vocabulary doesn't even fit congruently with the context? You are trying to sound smart an intellectual but looking like a fool to those people who have truly mastered the vocabulary of the English language. You obviously don't have any formal writing training and don't know what it is to consider your audience when writing. Heck, I have an IQ of 139 with a B.A and a Masters but I can't follow the thought straight through in any of your paragraphs—you are all over the place.

As for the complaints by these guys about legalization they are the main reason I keep writing about an issue especially when they spread lies to try and scare people to make their point. Arkle had the nerve to twist the truth by saying "the feds have already stated that no entity (leaving out the word federal) anywhere in the U.S. shall be allowed to engage in a federally illegal operation if that entity receives federal monies in any form. The federal funds will be withheld as well as other federal assistance." A half-truth is just as bad as a whole lie Arkle as this was referring to any federal entities or programs, not sovereign state level governments. Colorado is using its Revenue & Tax Division in concert with the State Credit Union to handle the marijuana money. Government programs being funded by federal funds cannot receive or use funds from the marijuana industry and this includes CNMI government employees who are paid with federal funds will not be allowed to use marijuana if their job is federally funded. FYI and you call yourself a doctor, where have you been as only the banks that are "FDIC-insured" by the federal government cannot accept marijuana money but none FDIC Financial Institutions including banks can accept marijuana money. Please get yourself some real education about legalization before you make any more idiotic and misleading statements that are really lies.

PS: Thanks for letting me use you guys again to better explain my points about the $400K loan and legalization as there could be no good without evil and I guess there could be no progress and good times without Scrooges—thanks with a smile! One people one direction for helping the people of Rota and legalization—prayers for the sore loser pack!

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman

My parents do not deserve this!

They came here in search for that "American Dream." They came here to pursue a better future for themselves and their families back in their hometown, the Philippines. They came here with open arms, diving into different jobs regardless of the circumstances, to provide for their own family. They came here to live a life less complicated and hectic as it was in comparison to the hardship their parents had to succumb with, such as the Martial Law era. They came here with nothing but good intentions to merely financially help them. It has been over 20 years since they arrived. Now they have no choice but to go back to where they have started.

However, I'm also speaking on behalf of the CW workers populating Saipan who will have to deal with this crisis. Here's to those who have spent nearly half of their lives working incessantly to provide for the people they love.

If you think about it, dramatic shifts will not only occur within the lives of CW workers, but as well as the economy of the island. Their population has occupied majority of this island's whole population, which can have a domino effect on factors, both big and small, in this island. Factors including the economy, power, water, and sewage facilities—factors that help Saipan stay grounded. They have shown nothing but hospitality, diligence, and flexibility to the people around them; non-hesitant with enduring perilous tasks such as dealing with rude remarks from tourists or working during Typhoon Soudelor.

Politicians are supposed to look at issues through different perspectives and represent their people. Although, there are more people than just a panel or committee, but thousands willing to voice their stories just so they could continue with the life they are building since their arrival.

I'm just one of those people and I'm not even a CW worker.

Ariane Reyes
Via email

SILENCE

From Page 10

degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels. It was a good start, but some experts doubt it will be enough for the world to avoid the worst ravages of climate change.

Still, that's no excuse for inaction. The world needs to continue—and hasten—the shift in how it creates and uses energy; it must invest in technological innovation and craft programs to mitigate the effects of the changes we'll be unable to stop. In Louisiana, the federal government already is spending $48 million to move a village of about 100 Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw Indians whose land is being consumed by the Gulf of Mexico. Another project using mostly state money is relocating the remote native village of Newtok, Alaska. A 2009 Army Corps of Engineers report questioned the viability of at least two dozen more Alaskan villages similarly threatened by the shrinking ice cap and thawing permafrost, which increase flooding and shoreline erosion.

Confronting the challenges of climate change will require significant political leadership, particularly since a cluster of deniers hold influential congressional positions. Given the severity of the threat, the issue should play a far greater role in the national discussion.

Yes, Islamic State is a destabilizing force, income inequality may have knocked the nation's middle class on its heels and there's way too much money skewing our political system. But climate change, with its mass variations in weather patterns, disappearing coastlines, longer and drier droughts and ensuing conflicts over access to water and habitable terrain, is a looming problem that threatens to upend world politics. Unless we stop looking at it as a back-burner issue, we're going to pay the consequences much sooner than we think.

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ZOOS

From Page 10

cent years, is in the midst of a $12-million remodel and expansion of the habitat for its gorillas, according to the zoo's website. That remodel should include refashioning perimeters to discourage agile little children.

Yes, children are sneaky. Even the zoo director, peppered with questions about how the child could have gotten across the barriers, shot back, "Do you know any 4-year-olds?" Fine. But since children are a big portion of the zoo's visitor base, let's see if we can build fencing that will outsmart them.

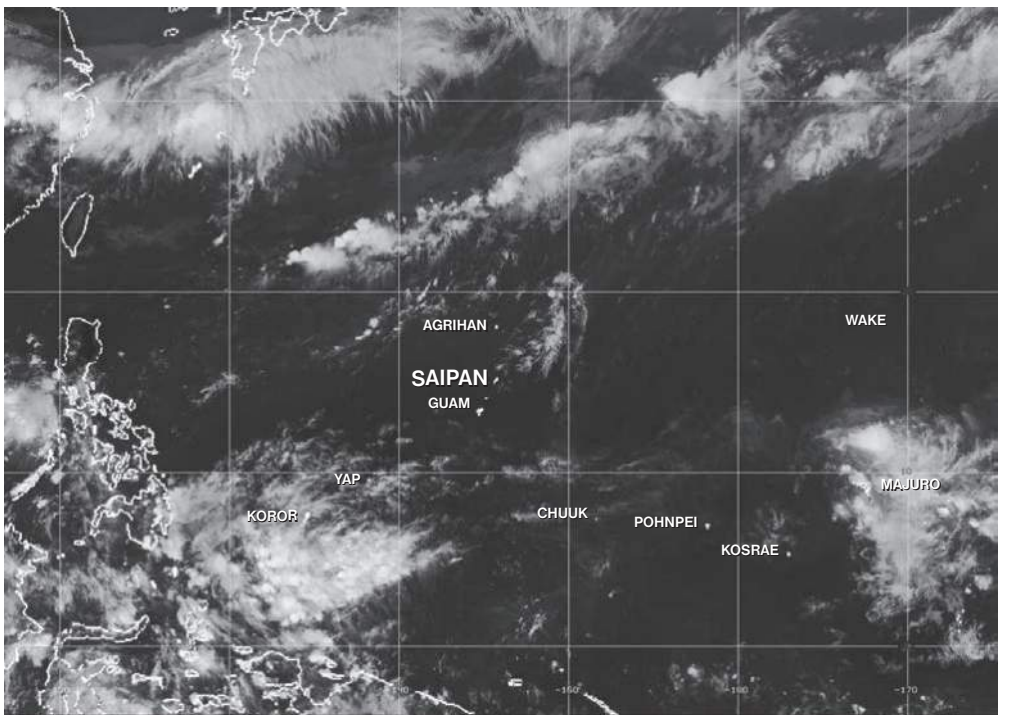
All zoos and all parents should learn from the tragedy at the Cincinnati Zoo.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. Southeast winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms.
▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Convergent surface winds are causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Iwo To island within 90 miles of a line from 22N135E to 25N145E. An upper-level low centered northwest of Koror near 10N130E is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over the Republic of Palau west of a line from 8N136E to 6N141E to 4N141E to EQ136E. A trade-wind disturbance just west of Kwajalein is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across the Marshalls within 180 miles of a line from 12N166E to 4N172E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲90	▼79
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼79
Kosrae	Mostly Sunny	▲85	▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼81

Around the Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲58	▼45
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲92	▼65
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼83
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲82	▼71
London	Cloudy	▲60	▼50
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼60
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲62	▼41
Miami	Thundershowers	▲86	▼77
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼61
Osaka	Sunny	▲75	▼57
Paris	Showers	▲67	▼56
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲79	▼59
Rome	Thunderstorms	▲70	▼60
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲82	▼57
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲67	▼53
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼59
Tokyo	Windy	▲77	▼56
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼66

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

5:33 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
12:33 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
6:54 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:44 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:45 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:45 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:45 PM
Monday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:01 AM	3:45 PM
Friday	3:52 AM	4:47 PM
Saturday	4:46 AM	5:47 PM
Sunday	5:42 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	6:40 AM	7:52 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	10:35pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2921/191	1:30pm	8:55am+1	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2920/191	2:20pm	8:55am+1	2, 6 via GUM
UA2928/191	6:05pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2920	9:45pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	9:45pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2929	9:45pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Community invited to NMC-CREES 'Listening Sessions'

As part of its ongoing efforts to better serve the community, the Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Service will be hosting "Listening Sessions" designed to solicit input, ideas, and recommendations from stakeholders and other community members.

Input collected from the listening sessions will be used to formulate a strategy that will help CREES meet the evolving needs of the CNMI. The sessions will be organized into four key areas and will be held on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian at the following times and locations:

Agriculture

- Tuesday June 7, 2016, NMC Saipan Campus Building K, 8:30am-10:30am
- Thursday, June 9 2016, NMC Tinian Campus, 8:30am-9:30am
- Friday, June 10 2016, NMC Rota Campus, 8:30am-9:30am

Aquaculture and Natural Resources

- Tuesday June 7, 2016, NMC Saipan Campus Building K, 1:30pm-3:30pm
- Thursday, June 9 2016, NMC Tinian Campus, 10am-11am
- Friday, June 10 2016, NMC Rota Campus, 10am-11am

Health & Nutrition

- Wednesday June 8, 2016, NMC Saipan Campus Building K, 8:30am-10:30am
- Thursday, June 9 2016, NMC Tinian Campus, 1:30pm-2:30pm
- Friday, June 10 2016, NMC Rota Campus, 1:30pm-2:30pm

Family, Community, & Youth Development

- Wednesday June 8, 2016, NMC Saipan Campus Building K, 1:30pm-3:30pm
- Thursday, June 9 2016, NMC Tinian Campus, 3pm-4pm
- Friday, June 10 2016, NMC Rota Campus, 3pm-4pm

Those who are not able to attend the listening session are asked to fill out paper-based questionnaires that are available at CREES administrative offices in Dandan at the RJ Commercial Center across from Joeten for Saipan; NMC Tinian Campus; or the NMC Rota Campus.

An online questionnaire is also available at http://tinyurl.com/crees-needs-assessment-2016. For more information about the listening session, please contact 237-6842. ***(PR)***

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Marianas High School's Alyssa Velasco on graduating with the class of 2016. We wish you the best with your future endeavors. Greetings from your *Saipan Tribune* family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Coast Guard medevacs man from tour boat off Maui

HONOLULU, Hawaii—The U.S. Coast Guard medically evacuated a 48-year-old man experiencing difficulty breathing while aboard the Lahaina Princess, near Molokini Crater, Maui, Tuesday.

A Station Maui 45-foot Response Boat-Medium crew safely transported the man to Maalaea Pier where they were met by EMS who administered oxygen.

At 10:03 a.m., watchstanders at Coast Guard Sector Honolulu received report from crewmembers aboard the Lahaina Princess regarding a passenger who was experiencing difficulty breathing.

The RB-M was diverted from a training mission to the scene at 10:20 a.m.

Once on scene, the man was safely transferred onto the RB-M to be transported to Maalaea Pier.

Coast Guard Station Maui is one of four small boat stations in the Coast Guard 14th District. Located on the south shore of Maui at Maalaea Harbor, the unit has a compliment of 20 active duty members, three reservists and two auxiliarists. Their area of responsibility encompasses Maui, Molokai, Lanai and Kaho'olawe as well as Molokini Crater. Search and rescue is one of their primary missions and can be everything from a sinking vessel or downed small plane to a heart attack victim or a swimmer taken out to sea by a rip current. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

2 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged DPW Channel Bridge and San Antonio Lift Station and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(PR)***

JKPL to host sign language class

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will host a free American Sign Language class from 2pm to 3pm on Saturday, June 4, at the Children of Our Homeland Library.

This is the third in a series of programs for teenagers and children presented in American Sign Language. The topics include standing up to peer pressure and how to protect your children.

This event is intended for deaf children and teens.

However, you could still join if you feel your child may also benefit from sign language communication.

This is a free event sponsored by the Jehovah's Witnesses.

For more information, call JKPL at 235-7322. ***(PR)***

Del Corro wallet found

Calling the attention of Alejandro Barati Del Corro. Chel Castro found your wallet, which has a Best Sunshine ID and a CNMI driver's license.

For more information, call Castro at 287-0302 or 322-1862. ***(PR)***

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone)
for
Saipan Globe International Group Ltd. DBA: Saipan Michael Hotel

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Saipan Globe International Group Ltd, dba: Saipan Michael Hotel, is requesting to rezone Lots 001 B 42, 008 B 16, 008 B 22/ 23/ 24, 008 B 48, and 008 B 50 in San Roque from "Rural," "Village Residential," and "Village Commercial," zoning districts to "Tourist Resort" zoning districts. The applicant wishes to construct and operate a hotel & resort facility. These lots are located west of Chalan Pale Arnold, north of the former Plumeria Hotel, and south of San Roque Elementary School.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: June 9, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board conference Room, 2nd Flr. Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, June 8, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda

Friday, June 10, 2016
5:00 PM, Multipurpose Center
Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan
Tel: 234-9661 ● Fax: 234-9666 ● www.zoning.gov.mp

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 05/12/16 meeting minutes
5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

B. Public Hearings

Conditional Use Application #2016-1779: Marianas Christian Church is proposing to construct and operate a church facilty. This use is classified as "Church or place of worship" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This proposal is located on Lot 005 H 29, along Chalan Hagoi in Susupe. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

Rezone Application #2016-1729 (Change of Zoning District): Saipan Globe International Group Ltd. is requesting to rezone Lots 001 B 42, 008 B 16, 008 B 22, 008 B 23, 008 B 24, 008 B 48, and 008 B 50 in San Roque from "Village Residential", "Village Commercial", and "Rural" zoning districts to "Tourist Resort" zoning district to develop a hotel resort. These lots are located on the south and southeast of San Roque Middle School, as well as on the north and northwest of the San Roque fire substation.

C. Communications
D. Old Business
1. None

E. New Business
1. Election of Board Officers
2. Office Operations Reports (Permits, Enforcement)
3. Proposed changes to the Zoning Fees

F. Executive (Closed) Session
G. Miscellaneous
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

H. Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

COMMONWEALTH
ZONING BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
for Marianas Christian Church

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Marianas Christian Church is proposing to construct and operate a church facility. The use is classified as "Church or place of worship" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This proposal is located on Lot 005 H 29, along Chalan Hagoi in Susupe. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

Date: June 10, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Multipurpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, June 08, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

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A public hearing will be held on:

Date: June 10, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Multipurpose Center, Beach Road, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, June 8, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

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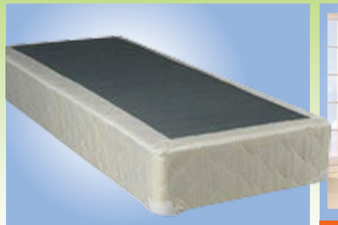

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KENMORE COMFORT 20" BOX FAN $25.95

GLACIER BAY HIGH EFFICIENCY TOILET $129.95

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EH 3 Tier Storage Shelves $24.95

Rubbermaid 2.1 BU Hip Hugger Basket $15.95

My Toy Push Ride on Mobile $64.95

BMSD 24" Bicycle $119.95

BMSD 20" Bicycle $119.95

Intex 8ft. Snapset Pool $24.95

Intex 18 Pocket Fashion Lounge Mat $6.95

Sol Effect Volleyball $8.95

Shark Navigator Swivel Plus Vacuum $129.95

Huntington 2 Burner Gas Grill W/ Burner $179.95

Ryobi 1700 PSI Electric Pressure Washer $269.95

Craftsman 120V Compressor Inflator $69.95

Shinever 2000 Watts Generator $649.95

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MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

PHOTOS BY THOMAS MANGLONA II

Hopwood Junior High School valedictorian Monique Era Mascarinas, center, poses for a photo with her parents flanked by school and government officials yesterday during the school's promotion ceremony on campus.

Michelle Bermudes, center, smiles as she poses for a photo with her parents surrounded by Public School System officials and dignitaries after giving her salutatory address.

Hopwood promotes last batch of junior HS students

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
tamanglona@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

A total of 323 students were beaming with pride and excitement as they received their certificate of promotion at Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Jr. High School yesterday.

This year's class marked the last junior high promoting batch of students as the school will transition into a middle school structure next year.

Principal Jonas M. Barcinas lauded the students for their academic achievement as the school year began with the destruction of Typhoon Soudelor.

"This celebration is a milestone in every child's life. It is important that we pause for a while to celebrate," he added. "We provide our children blessings and motivation to continue on a successful path to high school, college, and a career."

He encouraged the students' families to "be there even when they say 'no' and give them your love." He explained, "Healthy students make healthy adults and healthy adults make a healthy community."

Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero and Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan shared Barcinas' message.

Sablan told the graduates that their future is in their hands.

"It's all about you and your future. You hold that future, no one else does. In order for your future to really happen you have to start that dream that is very special and which you create," she added.

The commissioner also thanked Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) for his key role in garnering $6 million in additional federal funding for the improvement of classrooms and other educational facilities. The congressman was flanked by several other local politicians, Public School System officials, and dignitaries.

Sablan expressed her gratitude toward the students' parents, family, and friends.

This year's valedictorian, Monique Era Mascarinas, told the audience that although she was often stressed in her studies, the hard work paid off. "After all I became the valedictorian," she said.

"The harder the challenge, the sweeter the victory," she added. "There were fun and exciting times. Junior high school was really worth it… We're finally beginning summer!"

In her salutatory address, Michelle Bermudes thanked her parents and supporters as well. "I am really thankful to those who have had faith in me and who remained supportive," she said.

Bermudes offered some advice to her fellow classmates: "If you have a set goal in mind, always try to never give up. You may fail but learn to accept and move on…Progress does not happen unless you work hard."

Kaye Ann Obando received this year's prestigious Principal's Leadership award for her outstanding involvement and concern for school activities.

Lesly Ibarra, Glen John Matalog, Roger Keith Valencia, Jed Christian Pagcaliwaga, Tian En Chen, Brianna May Cabrera, and Mya Ngemaes joined the three others in being hailed as the Top 10 students of the class.

The students were greeted with a roaring applause as they sang "I'm from Hopwood" by Felix Rabauliman with their classmates. This year's promotion theme was taken from a quote by former first lady Eleanor Roosevelt: "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

Hopwood Junior High School principal Jonas Barcinas, right, presents Kaye Ann Obando with the leadership award trophy.

» Mascarinas, Bermudes are top students

Public School System officials, politicians, and other dignitaries take their seats on stage during Hopwood Junior High School's promotion ceremony yesterday.

A portion of the 323 students promoting yesterday are all smiles as they prepare to present their class song.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) applauds alongside principal Jonas Barcinas during Hopwood Junior High School's promotion ceremony yesterday.

Business

Abe to put off tax hike to mute shocks to faltering economy

TOKYO (AP)—Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is due Wednesday to announce he is postponing a sales tax hike to help nurture along Japan's economic recovery.

Abe

After repeatedly insisting he would go ahead next year with the increase in the national sales tax to 10 percent from the current 8 percent, Abe decided the risk of yet another economic downturn was just too high.

Japan has the world's third-largest economy. Growth has stalled, however, as the population has begun shrinking and aging and manufacturers moved overseas to tap into faster growing markets.

Abe has championed a barrage of monetary easing meant to vanquish deflation, which tends to discourage corporate investment and consumer spending. So far the strategy has made only limited progress.

The tax increase due in April 2017 is likely to be delayed until October 2019, after Abe leaves office.

While the decision will help the Liberal Democrats in an upcoming election for the upper house of parliament, it has raised questions over whether the "Abenomics" economic strategy has failed.

Abe easily weathered a no-confidence motion introduced by opposition leaders Tuesday, thanks to the Liberal Democratic Party's strong majority in parliament.

But opposition party leaders lashed out, accusing Abe of using concern over slowdowns in China and other emerging economies as a smoke screen for the failings of his own policies.

"Prime Minister Abe should immediately step down," said Katsuya Okada, head of the Democratic Party, one of four opposition parties that submitted the no-confidence motion. "He mishandled economic policy, and his Abenomics has failed."

With Japan's public debt at nearly 240 percent of its GDP, putting the nation's accounts in order is an urgent priority. Economists and finance ministry officials say the tax needs to rise to 20 percent or more as costs of caring for the country's aging population soar.

Forget the fires: Hoverboards just want a second chance

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Don't look now, but hoverboards are angling for a comeback.

Months ago, the powered scooters—which balance themselves but don't actually "hover"—largely vanished from the U.S. market after they exhibited a distressing tendency to burst into flame. Now, though, Segway and other manufacturers want consumers to give hoverboards a second chance.

On Wednesday, Segway—which also makes the eponymous upright scooter beloved by mall cops and airport security—will begin taking Amazon pre-orders for a new hoverboard, the MiniPro. Although the boards won't actually ship until July, it's a significant step, given that Amazon, Walmart and other retailers dumped the products months ago after videos of burning hoverboards went viral.

The MiniPro and other new scooters have passed new safety standards designed to prevent fires. But that doesn't mean they're completely safe—nor that manufacturers like Segway can overcome their enormous image problems.

Few consumer products have zoomed in from nowhere, only to literally crash and burn, as quickly as hoverboards did. Produced by little-known companies, the scooters shot to prominence late last year after a host of celebrities from Justin Bieber to Jamie Foxx were seen riding on them. Small manufacturers in China, which can quickly clone popular products, flooded the market with lookalikes.

Then came the fires and embarrassing falls by the likes of Kendall Jenner and Mike Tyson . Florida congressman Carlos Curbelo tweeted a post-Christmas picture of his arm in a sling with the message, "#hoverboard is for kids. My daughter got it. I ended up in @BaptistHealthSF."

Since last August, the Consumer Product Safety Commission counts at least 62 hoverboard-related fires and an estimated 7,200 falls that required emergency-room visits. It's still investigating 13 hoverboard makers, including Chinese companies such as Yooliked and Keenford Ltd. Many municipalities, airports and college campuses still ban the gadgets.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Mitsubishi Materials, Chinese WWII slave workers reach deal

TOKYO (AP)—Mitsubishi Materials Corp., one of dozens of Japanese companies that used Chinese forced laborers during World War II, has reached a settlement with Chinese victim groups that includes a company apology and compensation. Mitsubishi Materials said Wednesday afternoon that the settlement, its first ever involving forced laborers, will be formally announced later in the day in Tokyo and Beijing, but did not give details. Japan's Kyodo News agency said that under the agreement, the company will pay 100,000 yuan ($15,000) each to more than 3,000 Chinese victims and their families, and will also offer an apology. The victims are among about 40,000 Chinese brought to Japan in the early 1940s as forced laborers to make up for a domestic labor shortage. Many died due to violence and malnutrition.

Longtime Staples CEO to go after Office Depot deal scrapped

NEW YORK (AP)—Staples Inc. says Ron Sargent will step down as chief executive after 14 years on the job. His departure follows Staples and rival Office Depot dropping their $6.3 billion merger earlier this month after antitrust regulators opposed it. Staples director Robert Sulentic said in a statement that the board and Sargent agreed that it was time for new management to help Staples grow after the deal's collapse. Sargent will step down as CEO after the company's annual shareholder meeting June 14 but will remain a director and non-executive chairman through the end of January. The Framingham, Massachusetts-based office supplies retailer said Tuesday that Staples executive Shira Goodman, the president of operations in North America, will become interim CEO. The company's board will search for a permanent replacement.

Nation

Cincinnati's pioneering gorilla exhibit now common in zoos

CINCINNATI (AP)—The Cincinnati Zoo, where a gorilla was shot and killed over the weekend after a 3-year-old boy climbed over a fence and fell into its enclosure, has an open viewing area that was among the first of its kind and is now common in many zoos around the country.

AP

In this Friday, Aug. 16, 1996 file photo, Binti Jua, an 8-year-old female gorilla, carries an injured 3-year-old boy to a service gate after the child fell 18 feet to a concrete floor in the primate exhibit at the Brookfield Zoo in Brookfield, Ill.

The exhibit was at the forefront of zoos moving away from cages in favor of more realistic living environments and adopting a range of exhibits, from natural habitats behind glass walls to jungle-like settings separated from the public by hedges and bamboo fences.

While police are investigating what happened in Cincinnati and federal inspectors are planning their own review, the zoo says it too will look at whether it needs to reinforce the barriers even though it considers the enclosure more secure than what's required.

"The exhibit is safe, the barrier is safe," said zoo director Thane Maynard, who noted the exhibit is routinely checked by federal inspectors and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, which also plans to investigate what happened.

The breach, the zoo director said, was the first time a visitor had entered the zoo's Gorilla World, which opened in 1978 and was billed as the first "bar-less" outdoor gorilla habitat in the nation.

Clinton scores prized endorsement from Gov. Jerry Brown

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Hillary Clinton landed a coveted endorsement from California Gov. Jerry Brown Tuesday, patching up a strained relationship between the two Democrats as she seeks to deliver a final blow to Bernie Sanders' campaign.

Clinton heads into California and the other end-of-the-line primaries June 7 with the Democratic nomination virtually locked up—she needs just 71 delegates to reach the required threshold at the party's summer convention in Philadelphia. But Sanders is staging boisterous rallies across the state and running TV ads in hopes of delivering an upset that he says would strengthen his claim to the nomination, despite the numbers.

While Clinton's campaign has been looking to California as the triumphant conclusion to her primary run, her lead appears to have vanished in recent days. Polling last week showed a race that's nearly tied.

Clinton is still expected to lock up the nomination before the polls close in the Golden State, but a loss in California would amount to a deeply symbolic wound in a state she carried in the 2008 presidential primary against then-Sen. Barack Obama. It would also encourage Sanders to make good on his promise to remain in the race until the party convention in July, hampering Clinton's ability to unify her party and sending her limping into the general election.

While the state has a pronounced Democratic tilt, a Clinton defeat could also embolden Republicans who would love to see her have to defend ground in a state that hasn't sided with a Republican presidential candidate since 1988.

Father who had daughter marry her rapist sentenced to jail

ST. ANTHONY, Idaho (AP)—An Idaho man will spend about four months in jail for taking his pregnant 14-year-old daughter to Missouri and having her marry a 24-year-old family friend who had raped her.

The father pleaded guilty to injury to a child last week, and a judge put him behind bars for 120 days and ordered three years of supervised probation, the Idaho State Journal reported.

"I would note that the 120 days is approximately how long this vile farce of a marriage lasted," Seventh District Judge Gregory Moeller told him at the sentencing. "While you sit in jail, you will sit and think about the 120 days your daughter was in a vile farce of a marriage to a rapist because of you."

The girl's father said he believed that a man should marry a girl he gets pregnant.

The Associated Press does not generally identify victims of sexual abuse and is withholding the name of the father and man involved in the marriage to avoid identifying the girl.

The 24-year-old and the girl became acquainted because their families worked together. The sexual contact occurred in 2015, according to court documents, and the victim's pregnancy was discovered that summer after she was taken to the doctor for stomach pains.

The girl's stepmother testified during a court hearing that once the pregnancy was discovered, a "family meeting" was held that included the victim and the 24-year-old man, who was not yet charged with rape.

The girl and the man reportedly told family members they wanted to be married, with the 24-year-old telling family members they were in love and the girl saying she didn't want her child to have to deal with a split custody arrangement.

Asia

Next PH VP helped beat dictator, son years apart

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Leni Robredo was a college student three decades ago when she rose with multitudes of Filipinos in a largely peaceful revolt that ousted Ferdinand Marcos as the world watched in awe.

Now a neophyte 52-year-old politician, Robredo defeated Sen. Ferdinand Marcos Jr., son and namesake of the late dictator, in a cliffhanger race for vice president last month. Congress proclaimed her vice president-elect Monday, along with President-elect Rodrigo Duterte at the House of Representatives.

Pro-democracy activists had feared a Marcos win could have threatened to reverse the legacy of the 1986 "people power" revolt, part of the anti-dictatorship resistance that Robredo says sparked her "political awakening."

Robredo was a university student in 1983 when she joined thousands of mourners in a long line at a Catholic church to view the bloodied remains of anti-Marcos politician Benigno Aquino Jr., who had been assassinated by his military escorts at the Manila international airport. The brazen killing of Aquino, father of outgoing President Benigno Aquino III, sparked angry protests that climaxed in the uprising.

"I joined so many rallies which eventually led to EDSA," she said during the campaign, referring to the main metropolitan Manila highway where more than a million Filipinos massed in 1986 to topple the dictator.

AP

In this May 30, 2016 file photo, Philippine vice president-elect Leni Robredo answers questions from the media following her proclamation by Senate President Franklin Drilon and House Speaker Feliciano Belmonte in a joint session at the House of Representatives in suburban Quezon city, northeast of Manila, Philippines.

Amnesty says 1.2 M Afghans internally displaced by war

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Amnesty International said Tuesday that more than 1.2 million Afghans have been forced to flee their homes due to violence in the past three years and urged the Kabul government and the international community to tackle the country's growing crisis of refugees internally displaced by war.

Those numbers are growing as the war, now in its 15th year, intensifies, the rights group said in a report released in Kabul, adding that many of the internally displaced "live in horrific conditions on the brink of survival."

The Taliban have been waging war on the Afghan government since their regime was toppled in the 2001 U.S. invasion. With the withdrawal of most international combat troops in 2014, the insurgency has stepped up—the United Nations says that in 2015 alone, 11,002 civilians were killed or wounded, most of them by insurgents.

The report quotes Farzana, a mother of seven who has lived in a Kabul camp for internally displaced people for more than a decade, after fleeing her home in Parwan province. Since her husband left a few years ago, she has been the family's sole breadwinner.

"When you can't put food on the table for your children, it is worse than being hit with a gun," said Farzana, who was identified only by one name.

The Afghan government is failing the displaced, even in areas where the international community is involved, Amnesty said. Pilot programs in three conflict-torn provinces—western Herat, northern Balkh and Nangarhar on the eastern border—have stalled, it said.

But Hafiz Ahmad Miakhail, a media adviser at the Afghan refugee ministry, disputed Amnesty's numbers, saying the total number of internally displaced was closer to 1 million, with many affected not just by the war but also natural disasters, including floods and earthquakes.

4 dead, 10 hurt in South Korean construction explosion

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Four people died and 10 others were injured after an explosion at a subway construction site on Wednesday near the South Korean capital of Seoul.

The workers were welding iron bars 15 meters (49 feet) underground when the explosion occurred in the morning, said officials from the Gyeonggi Province Fire and Disaster Headquarters, who didn't want to be named, citing office rules.

One worker was found dead above ground, his body possibly blown upward by the force of the explosion, while three others were found dead underground. Three of the injured were seriously hurt, the officials said.

The cause of the explosion wasn't immediately known. An official from the Namyangju fire department, who also didn't want to be named, citing office rules, said a gas tank used for the welding operations might have exploded.

The accident is the latest addition into a long list of deadly safety accidents in South Korea, where, despite a period of soul-searching after a 2014 ferry disaster that killed more than 300 people, safety issues continue to be overlooked.

There was public outrage about the death of a 19-year-old subway worker who was hit by a subway train on Saturday while doing maintenance work on screen doors on a station platform in Seoul. Critics have questioned the labor policies at Seoul Metro, the subway operator, asking why the man was working alone when safety regulations require at least two for such jobs.

Analysts say many safety problems in the country stem from little regulation and wide ignorance about safety in general—and a tendency to value economic advancement over all else.

World

Mediterranean Sea disasters leave more than 1,000 dead

GENEVA (AP)—The treacherous Mediterranean Sea crossing from Libya to Italy claimed the lives of at least 1,083 migrants over the past week—mostly because barely seaworthy smuggling boats foundered and sank despite calm seas and sunny skies, a migration agency said Tuesday, citing new accounts from survivors.

The staggering death toll could foreshadow more disasters in coming months as the region gears up for the traditional summer-fall spike in human trafficking as the weather improves and seas grow warmer. Aid officials say it also suggests that Libyan smuggling gangs are using even riskier tactics to profit from the torrent of people desperate to reach the safety and economic promise of Europe.

Making matters worse, the tally is only from the capsizings or shipwrecks known to authorities, who acknowledge they don't have precise information on how many people are being jammed into unsuitable vessels and swallowed up by the vast waters of the southern Mediterranean.

Two Eritreans among the hundreds of shipwreck survivors brought to Italian ports last week described being haunted by the number of women and children on their capsized boat who did not survive. They could still hear the cries of the children as the ship sank Thursday, they said.

"I started to cry when I saw the situation and when I found the ship without an engine. There were many women and children," said 21-year-old Filmon Selomon who plunged into the sea to save himself. "Water was coming in from everywhere, top, bottom."

"The children were crying and the women," said Habtom Tekle, a 27-year-old Eritrean. "At this point I only tried to pray. Everybody was trying to take the water out of the boat."

The International Organization for Migration said Tuesday that 62 people were confirmed dead and another 971 were missing and presumed drowned in nine separate emergencies since May 25 on the Libya-to-Italy sea route.

William Spindler, a spokesman for the U.N. refugee agency, told reporters in Geneva that this year was already proving to be "particularly deadly" on the Mediterranean, with some 2,510 lives lost compared to 1,855 over the same period a year ago.

Amid heavy clashes in Fallujah, fears rise for civilians

CAMP TARIQ, Iraq (AP)—As Iraqi forces pressed an offensive Tuesday to dislodge Islamic State militants from Fallujah, conditions are worsening for tens of thousands of civilians trapped in the city, and a leading aid group raised alarm over an unfolding "human catastrophe."

IS fighters launched a fierce counterattack on the southern edge of the city, slowing the progress of the elite Iraqi counterterrorism troops, and the militants reportedly corralled civilians into a single neighborhood for use as human shields.

With an estimated 50,000 civilians still inside Fallujah, humanitarian groups renewed calls on both sides to open safe corridors for noncombatants to flee—an action that seems unlikely because it would require negotiations between IS and the Iraqi forces to agree on a cessation of hostilities. In addition, Iraqi authorities want to prevent IS fighters from escaping the city by melting into the fleeing civilian population.

Iraqi forces repelled the four-hour counterattack a day after entering the southern part of Fallujah with the help of U.S.-led airstrikes. The dawn attack unfolded in the Nuaimiya area, most of which was captured by Iraqi troops on Monday, two special forces officers told The Associated Press. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release the information.

IS militants used tunnels and snipers, and targeted Iraqi forces with six explosives-laden cars that were destroyed before they reached their targets, the officers said. Iraqi forces suffered casualties, but no details were given.

The clashes subsided by Tuesday afternoon, but the officers said progress was slowed by roadside bombs the militants left behind. The troops also paused to destroy tunnels in the area. Since Monday, 106 militants have been killed, the officers said.

WORLD BRIEFS

OAS chief calls for emergency meeting to evaluate Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—The head of the Organization of American States called Tuesday for an emergency meeting of regional governments to evaluate Venezuela's respect for democracy, a move that could lead to the country's suspension from the hemispheric body. President Maduro responded by saying he would take action against his country's opposition-controlled Congress. OAS Secretary General Luis Almagro said Venezuela had suffered "grave alterations of democratic order" and called for a vote on the matter in the coming weeks, possibly to coincide with the group's annual meeting next month in the Dominican Republic. Socialist-ruled Venezuela could be suspended from the Washington-based OAS if two-thirds of its 34 member states voted that the country's leadership has gravely undermined democracy. The last time that occurred was in 2009, when Honduras was suspended following the military's removal of President Manuel Zelaya.

Italy court upholds Concordia captain guilty verdict

FLORENCE, Italy (AP)—An Italian appeals court has upheld the conviction and 16-year prison sentence for the Italian captain of the *Costa Concordia* cruise ship that capsized off Tuscany in 2012, killing 32 people. Prosecutors had sought 27 years and three months for Capt. Francesco Schettino, but the court kept the original sentence Tuesday, according to the ANSA news agency. Both the prosecution and defense appealed the conviction by a lower court last year. The prosecution sought to toughen the sentence while the defense argued that blame didn't fall solely on Schettino. He remains free, and has one final appeal to Italy's highest court. Schettino was convicted of manslaughter and causing the shipwreck by colliding with a reef near tiny Giglio island and of abandoning the capsized vessel with people still aboard.

Environment

Uncharted waters: Restoring deep Gulf fouled by BP spill

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Far offshore and a mile deep in the dark world below the Gulf of Mexico's gleaming surface, the catastrophic BP oil spill of 2010 did untold damage on the ocean floor. But scientists are unsure they can do much to heal places in the deep that were hurt the most as they undertake what's being called the largest ecosystem restoration effort ever.

"We're trying to do something that we've never done before," said Erik Cordes, a Temple University coral expert who's studied the corals damaged by the spill and worked on the government's restoration plans. "We are in uncharted waters here."

The continental shelf drops sharply, about 25 miles off the Louisiana coast. A mile below, there's a world of inky cold blackness. Although obscure, this deep ocean world is a foundation of the life and food webs of the Gulf. Scientists say it's important to try restoring it.

In April, a federal judge approved BP's $20 billion settlement to cover the spill's environmental and economic damage. But a relatively small portion of that—about $273 million—has been earmarked for restoring the deep ocean over the next 15 years.

It's far from clear if much can be done because deep-sea restoration has never been attempted, scientists said.

There won't be nurseries for deep-sea starfish, lobsters and shrimp. Don't expect corals to be hatched in laboratories and transported a mile down to the Gulf floor. Oil mixed in the sediment won't be picked up by submarines or subsea robots.

"Picking up (oil-contaminated) sediment over hundreds of miles is just not practicable," said Paul Montagna, a marine biologist with the Harte Research Institute at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Sea cucumbers, worms, and crustaceans are about the only living things found in the vast stretches of muddy and sandy bottoms. They feed on detritus floating down. This sameness is broken in places by colonies of spindly colorful ancient corals. Here, crabs, eels, fish and shrimp congregate.

"These deep sea critters grow so slowly ... all we can do is wait and hope they recover fully," said Samantha Joye, a marine biologist at the University of Georgia, in an email. "This is something our grandkids may very well still be studying 40 years from now!"

BP's out-of-control deep well spat oil for 87 days into the Gulf in 2010. Much of it never reached the surface, kept in the depths both by chemical dispersants sprayed to keep the oil from reaching shorelines and by natural forces.

Studies estimated up to about 30 percent of the more than 172 million gallons of oil released from the well remained in the Gulf and up to about 3,250 square miles of the seafloor was affected—an area nearly the size of Yellowstone National Park.

Scientists have discovered extensive damage, down deep.

The worst was near BP's blown-out well, 45 miles off the Louisiana coast. But a much larger area was struck by underwater oil plumes and covered in contaminated marine snow, stringy brown, wool-like clumps of particles that drifted down from the surface slicks. Close to the well, scientists say oil coated creatures and coral, killing them. Farther away, oil contamination has stunted animals' growth, left corals with broken branches and fouled the food web.

This injury to the deep-sea should not be ignored, scientists said.

"The more we learn about the deep-sea, the more we learn about the connections between shallow waters and the deep water. Changes in the deep-sea have repercussions for the wider Gulf," Cordes said. "But the scary part is that we don't know what the repercussions may be."

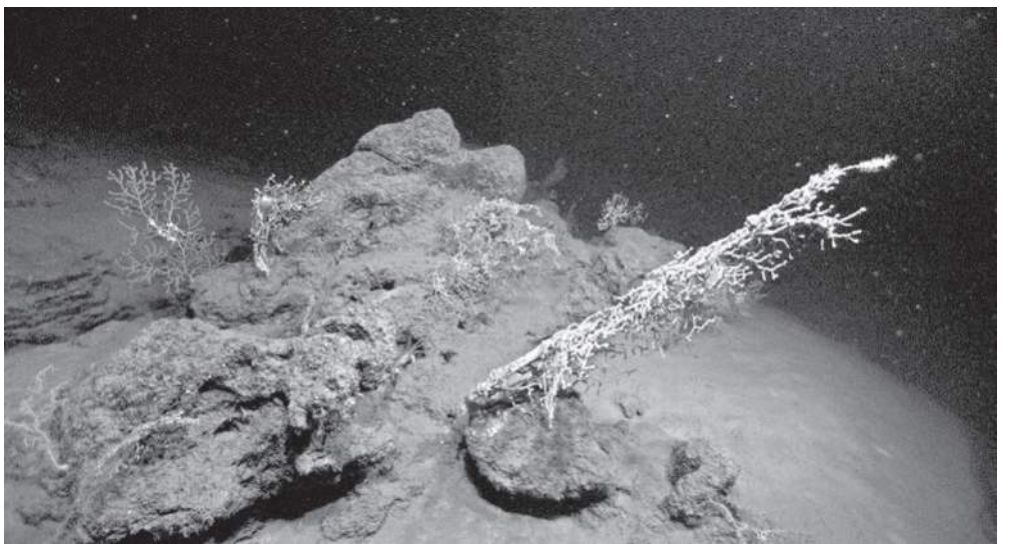
Fish of all kinds get nourishment down in the deep. Important nutrients originate there. The deep-sea also absorbs much of the planet's heat and carbon dioxide.

Despite the difficulty, there are ideas for repairing the deep Gulf.

A government restoration plan suggests dumping oyster shell, limestone and manufactured "reef balls" into the ocean in the hope that coral and fish colonize them.

The plan also considers transplanting healthy coral to reefs hit by the oil. The plan notes this has never been done in deep waters before, just as growing deep-sea coral in laboratories has not been attempted.

Baruch Rinkevich, a coral restoration expert at the National Institute of Oceanography in Israel, said in an email that deep-water coral restoration is stymied by a lack of knowledge of their biology. Techniques for restoring shallow-water corals have not been tried in the deep, he added.



AP

This November 2010 photo, taken in the Gulf of Mexico, shows an overview of the Mississippi Canyon 294 coral community that was discovered in November, 2010 to have been damaged during the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Scientists also hope to prevent further injury.

Some areas could be designated as protected reserves: no-go zones for fishing and oil and gas drilling, places where vessels would be prohibited from dumping waste and debris and from anchoring.

Researchers are looking at protecting a long deep-sea cliff off the Louisiana coast, not far from the spill-damaged sites. Cordes said that could help coral larvae along the cliff migrate and populate sick and dying reefs closer to the spill zone.

Other ideas include fixing leaky oil and gas pipelines and wells that may be hurting deep-water life.

Brittany Croll, an environmental scientist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration who's worked on the restoration plans, is hopeful because researchers can draw knowledge from coral restoration that's been done in shallower waters.

She also said habitat restoration in shallower waters and along shorelines will indirectly help the offshore because so many species migrate from both places.

Regardless, recovery will be slow. Life forms in the deep grow very slowly - about 10 times slower a half mile under the ocean.

Cordes is disappointed deep Gulf restoration hasn't already begun.

"Out of sight, out of mind, unfortunately," Cordes said. "People still don't realize that there are massive coral reefs right in their back yard in the Gulf of Mexico."

Only 60 vaquita porpoises are left in Gulf of California, experts say

By SANDRA DIBBLE
THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

SAN DIEGO—The population of the vaquita, a small porpoise endemic to Mexico's upper Gulf of California, has plummeted to about 60 survivors, according to a new study by an international team of scientists that urges stronger measures to protect the species.

Without sustained efforts, scientists warn that the vaquita, the world's most endangered marine mammal, could become extinct within five years.

Their report was presented in Ensenada last week to Mexico's secretary of the environment and natural resources, Rafael Pacchiano Alaman. It urges a permanent ban on the drift gill nets used by fishermen in the upper Gulf, as well as stronger enforcement measures to prevent illegal fishing.

While praising "unprecedented conservation actions" to protect the vaquita, scientists say the porpoises continue to drown when they end up unintentionally caught in the nets used to catch another critically endangered species, totoaba fish, whose air bladders command high prices in China.

In March alone, three dead vaquita were found, "all having died from entanglement in gill nets probably set for totoaba," according to a statement sent late Friday.

The authors of the report are members of the International Committee for the Recovery of the Vaquita (CIRVA), an international advisory group to the Mexican government. Their findings come more than a year after President Enrique Pena Nieto traveled to the Baja California fishing town of San Felipe to announce an unprecedented two-year ban on gill-net fishing in the vaquita habitat and a compensation program for local fishermen.

"We are watching this precious native species disappear before our eyes," Lorenzo Rojas-Bracho, CIRVA'S chairman, said in the statement. "The gill net ban and strong enforcement must continue if we are to have any hope of saving the vaquita," said Rojas-Bracho, who is coordinator of research and marine mammal conservation at Mexico's National Institute for Ecology and Climate Change.

Rojas-Bracho was co-chief scientist during a nine-week expedition in the upper Gulf last fall commissioned by the Mexican government to determine the number of vaquita remaining. Observers spent hours each day behind high-powered binoculars aboard the research vessel Ocean Starr, scouring the surface for signs of the vaquita, which must surface to breathe. Their findings in deeper waters where the ship could navigate were combined with acoustic data in shallow waters that registered high-frequency clicks that vaquita use to locate their prey.

After months of processing the information, the final result showed that the numbers have continued their downward trend of recent years, from 567 in 1997 to 245 in 2008 to about 60 in 2015.

"We would be in much worse shape if they hadn't taken the emergency ban," said Barbara Taylor, a conservation biologist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Southwest Fisheries Science Center in La Jolla and co-chief scientist in the vaquita survey. If gill-netting is allowed to resume in the upper Gulf, the vaquita could be extinct by 2022, she said.

Pacchiano, the environmental secretary, said federal law enforcement agencies have been collaborating to prevent illegal totoaba fishing in the upper Gulf, as well as fighting the illegal trafficking of the species and the "presence of organized criminal groups related to this activity." In a statement, he also stressed the importance of increasing protective measures.

Despite the dwindling number of vaquita, which grow to about 5 feet and 120 pounds, Taylor and other scientists say that the species is not beyond salvation. But it will require political will and economic resources. One measure they recommend is closing a loophole that allows the seasonal fishing of Gulf corvina, a practice that can be a cover for clandestine totoaba fishing.

The Mexican government's progress is being closely watched by the international environmental community. One organization, the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, has sent two ships to the upper Gulf to collaborate with Mexican law enforcement agencies, filming clandestine totoaba fishing and removing illegal nets.

Another group, the Center for Biological Diversity, has looked at the Mexican government's compensation program, which has set aside $36 million a year to support some 2,700 fishermen for income lost during the ban. Alejandro Olvera, the center's Mexico representative, said the funds have not been equitably distributed, with some receiving a large income while others are receiving nothing.

Conservationists say persuading fishermen to switch to vaquita-safe shrimp trawls would be critical to any long-term efforts to preserve the vaquita. But many are loath to make the switch. Carlos Tirado, head of a federation of fishing cooperatives in the coastal community of Santa Clara, said the trawls "have not given us the same results" as the gill nets.

In San Felipe, a small group of fishermen has been collaborating with scientists to test alternative gear. But to date, they have not received fishing permits from Mexico's National Fishing and Aquaculture Commission, Taylor said.

Life & Style

Box office top 20: 'X-Men' lags and 'Alice' flops

NEW YORK (AP)—Memorial Day weekend, long a flagship launching pad in Hollywood's summer, went bust at the box office, as a pair of poorly reviewed sequels disappointed.

"X-Men: Apocalypse," from 20th Century Fox, took in $79.8 million over the four-day weekend, according to final figures Tuesday. While a sizable sum, the debut was the sixth best of the eight "X-Men" movies, accounting for inflation. The film, directed by Bryan Singer, seeks to introduce a number of new cast members to the franchise.

"Alice Through the Looking Glass" flopped altogether. The Walt Disney Co. release cost $170 million to make, but it grossed just $33.5 million over the holiday weekend, including Monday. The performance, well shy of the $60 million-plus the industry expected, came on the heels of domestic violence accusations against the film's star, Johnny Depp, by his estranged wife, Amber Heard, in Los Angeles Superior Court on Friday.

AP

In this image released by Twentieth Century Fox, Mystique, portrayed by Jennifer Lawrence, appears in a scene from, "X-Men: Apocalypse.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Monday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Tuesday by comScore:

1 "X-Men: Apocalypse," 20th Century Fox, $79,810,133, 4,150 locations, $19,231 average, $79,810,133, 1 week.

2 "Alice Through The Looking Glass," Disney, $33,507,621, 3,763 locations, $8,904 average, $33,507,621, 1 week.

3 "The Angry Birds Movie," Sony, $24,560,955, 3,932 locations, $6,246 average, $72,214,264, 2 weeks.

4 "Captain America: Civil War," Disney, $20,004,509, 3,395 locations, $5,892 average, $377,480,457, 4 weeks.

5 "Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising," Universal, $11,442,975, 3,416 locations, $3,350 average, $40,679,555, 2 weeks.

6 "The Jungle Book," Disney, $9,512,646, 2,523 locations, $3,770 average, $341,024,555, 7 weeks.

7 "The Nice Guys," Warner Bros., $8,253,432, 2,865 locations, $2,881 average, $23,617,104, 2 weeks.

8 "Money Monster," Sony, $5,626,175, 2,315 locations, $2,430 average, $35,278,401, 3 weeks.

9 "Love & Friendship," Roadside Attractions, $3,153,391, 493 locations, $6,396 average, $4,146,939, 3 weeks.

10 "Zootopia," Disney, $1,121,189, 572 locations, $1,960 average, $336,164,834, 13 weeks.

11 "The Lobster," A24, $989,490, 116 locations, $8,530 average, $2,207,424, 3 weeks.

12 "The Darkness," High Top Releasing, $887,901, 1,004 locations, $884 average, $10,000,280, 3 weeks.

13 "The Meddler," Sony Pictures Classics, $700,295, 420 locations, $1,667 average, $3,143,513, 6 weeks.

14 "Batman V Superman: Dawn Of Justice," Warner Bros., $635,393, 361 locations, $1,760 average, $329,479,318, 10 weeks.

15 "The Man Who Knew Infinity," IFC Films, $607,665, 291 locations, $2,088 average, $2,470,423, 5 weeks.

16 "A Bigger Splash," Fox Searchlight, $520,256, 378 locations, $1,376 average, $1,433,107, 4 weeks.

17 "The Huntsman: Winter's War," Universal, $445,280, 374 locations, $1,191 average, $47,576,025, 6 weeks.

18 "Barbershop: The Next Cut," Warner Bros., $327,527, 265 locations, $1,236 average, $53,309,119, 7 weeks.

19 "Miracles From Heaven," Sony, $310,590, 207 locations, $1,500 average, $61,074,007, 11 week.

20 "Kung Fu Panda 3," 20th Century Fox, $307,836, 193 locations, $1,595 average, $143,143,205, 18 weeks.

'Shield' actor convicted of murder in killing of wife

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A jury on Tuesday convicted an actor who played a police officer on TV of second-degree murder in the shooting death of his wife that was partially witnessed by their two young sons.

The verdict in the trial of Michael Jace, who appeared on the FX series "The Shield," came after a weeklong trial in which Los Angeles jurors were told the actor shot his wife, April, in the back and then twice in the legs with a revolver that belonged to her father.

Jace, 53, did not testify in his own defense. He told detectives soon after the attack that he had retrieved the gun to kill himself but couldn't do it. Instead, he planned to shoot his wife, an avid runner, in the leg so she would feel pain, Jace said in a recorded interview.

Deputy District Attorney Tannaz Mokayef told jurors the actor was waiting for his wife, shot her in the back and taunted her before shooting each of her legs.

Jace's 10-year-old son testified that he heard his father say, "'If you like running, then run to heaven,'" before firing the second time.

Savoy Brown, an adult son of April Jace, said the family was pleased with the verdict. He said watching Michael Jace has been difficult for the family, and he is hoping the actor, who bit his bottom lip when the verdict was read but showed no other emotion, will show his feelings when he is sentenced.

"I'd just like to see the sadness on his face, that he realized it because it seems every now and then, there's moments of sadness and there's moments of not," Brown said after the verdict. "And those moments of not really get me questioning, you know, how can you go that far? How can you say those words? How can you do that?"

Mokayef said the potential sentence would be 40 years to life in prison when Jace is sentenced on June 10.

She said during the trial that the actor was upset that his wife wanted a divorce and believed she was having an affair, although no evidence was presented during the trial that she was cheating.

AP

Michael Jace, who played a police officer on the TV series, "The Shield," appears in court with his attorney, attorney Jason Sias, left, during his trial, Tuesday, May 31, 2016, at Los Angeles County Superior in Los Angeles.

Jace's attorney, Jamon Hicks, said his client is remorseful for killing his wife. The actor may speak during his sentencing hearing to express his remorse, but he wants to be respectful of April Jace's family, the lawyer said.

Hicks previously told jurors the actor accepted responsibility for killing his wife, but he should be convicted of voluntary manslaughter because he shot her in the heat of passion.

Jace turned himself in to police after the shooting and has been jailed since.

April Jace, 40, was a financial aid counselor at Biola University. She was married to Michael Jace for nine years and they had two sons, who were 8 and 5 at the time of her death.

Michael Jace had small roles in films such as "Planet of the Apes," ''Boogie Nights" and "Forrest Gump."

Judge who refused to toss Cosby's criminal case will stay on

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (AP)—A suburban Philadelphia judge who refused to throw out Bill Cosby's criminal case after his arrest will keep the case through trial.

Montgomery County Common Pleas Judge Steven T. O'Neill this year rejected defense efforts to toss the case over a supposed 2005 non-prosecution agreement between Cosby and a former prosecutor.

Cosby, 78, was charged in December with sexually assaulting a female friend in 2004. District Attorney Kevin Steele brought the charges after the case was reopened last year and the 12-year statute of limitations loomed.

Lawyers who know O'Neill say his early decisions don't necessarily point to how he might rule on the evidence at trial. The defense hopes to limit testimony from other women accusers who have come forward and keep out Cosby's deposition from a related lawsuit.

"If anybody thinks that because of his prior rulings in this case, and because of his prior background as a prosecutor, he is going to automatically admit all the prior bad acts (allegations), they're mistaken," said lawyer Jeffrey M. Lindy, who has appeared before O'Neill. "I think he's going to split the baby, so to speak: exclude some (accusers) and let others in."

The Times Herald of Norristown first reported last week on O'Neill's appointment to the case.

O'Neill, 62, took the bench in 2002, and has won accolades for his work running the county's rehabilitation-focused drug court for the past 10 years.

True to form, he minced few words in handling the 2007 drug and gun arrests of former Philadelphia Eagles Coach Andy Reid's two sons, calling the coach's home "a drug emporium" stocked with both illegal and prescription drugs. Both young men went to jail for a time, but also worked with O'Neill to seek help. One son died of an overdose five years later.

"He takes the plight of these young men and women ... seriously," Lindy said. "He's very, very concerned about them breaking the cycle of addiction."

In 2014, O'Neill handled the death-penalty trial of a young technology worker who, beset by gambling debts, killed an infant and grandmother in a botched kidnapping.

Cosby has not been given a trial date, but a lower-court judge upheld the charges after a May 24 preliminary hearing. He is accused of drugging and molesting former Temple University employee Andrea Constand. He has called the encounter consensual.

Cosby has waived his right to be formally arraigned on the charges this summer.

Lawyers say Johnny Depp's wife gave statement to police

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Johnny Depp's estranged wife has given Los Angeles police a statement to support her account of an alleged domestic violence incident involving the actor, her lawyers said Tuesday.

Attorneys Samantha Spector and Joseph P. Koenig wrote in a statement that model-actress Amber Heard had spoken to Los Angeles police. The statement did not indicate when Heard gave the statement, and the Los Angeles Police Department says it has no information about Heard speaking with officers.

"With her statement Amber hopes to give the LAPD the opportunity to conduct an accurate and complete investigation into the events of that evening and before," Heard's lawyers wrote. "If that occurs, and the truth is revealed, there is no doubt that Amber's claims will be substantiated beyond any doubt, and hopefully Johnny will get the help that he so desperately needs."

Heard obtained a temporary restraining order against Depp on Friday, alleging the actor threw her cell phone at her face, striking her below the right eye during a fight on May 21.

Los Angeles police have said they responded to the incident but found no evidence of a crime.

Spector and Koenig wrote that Heard did not initially give a statement to police because she was trying to protect Depp's reputation and career.

AP

In this Nov. 3, 2011 file photo, U.S. actors Johnny Depp, left, and Amber Heard arrive for the European premiere of their film, "The Rum Diary," in London.

An email message sent to Depp's publicist was not immediately returned Tuesday.

Heard submitted a photo of her bruised face when she applied for the restraining order. She also wrote that the actor pulled her hair, screamed at her and repeatedly hit her and violently grabbed her face.

She appeared at a Los Angeles court on Friday and had a bruise on her right cheek below the eye.

Heard filed for divorce on May 23, two days after the alleged abuse, citing irreconcilable differences. Depp's lawyer has accused Heard of using the abuse allegations to try to gain an advantage on the actor in divorce proceedings. She is seeking spousal support, but Depp is asking a judge to deny that request.

Plea deal done in Las Vegas for 'Pawn Stars' star Chumlee

LAS VEGAS (AP)—A star of the reality TV show "Pawn Stars" sealed a plea deal and will avoid jail time if he completes three years' probation following the discovery of guns, marijuana and other drugs at his Las Vegas home, officials said.

Attorneys for Austin Lee Russell, who is known on the show as "Chumlee," confirmed Tuesday that he pleaded guilty May 25 to felony weapon and misdemeanor attempted drug possession charges.

Russell's appearance last week before Clark County District Court Judge Jessie Walsh came days ahead of a Wednesday court date.

The judge ordered him to undergo counseling and stay out of trouble until 2019 to get the felony charge dismissed, according to the court record. That would leave the misdemeanor conviction on his record.

He faces two to five years in state prison on the weapon possession charge if he violates terms of the deal.

Russell was arrested March 9 after police serving a warrant at his home in a sex assault investigation found 12 guns, almost 5 ounces of marijuana, the anxiety medication Xanax and a small amount of methamphetamine.

No sex assault charge was filed. Defense attorney David Chesnoff said he and his client were glad police and prosecutors examined the case and agreed that it could be closed.

AP

Austin Lee Russell, better known as Chumlee from the TV series "Pawn Stars," appears in court Monday, May 23, 2016, in Las Vegas.

Gina Rodriguez makes teen's prom dress dream come true

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP)—Talk about finding the best prom dress ever.

Jessica Casanova, 17, of Buffalo, New York, recently went to her senior prom in the black Badgley Mischka gown Gina Rodriguez wore to the 2015 Golden Globe Awards, when the actress won for her CW show "Jane the Virgin" wearing the body hugging, strapless look.

Casanova initially asked Rodriguez over Twitter for the Zac Posen gown that Rodriguez wore to this year's Golden Globes but the actress didn't have that one available, so she said she could borrow the one she wore last year instead.

The teen's mom spoke with Rodriguez's publicist, who sent the dress in February. Rodriguez's goodwill didn't end there. She also paid for Casanova's alterations to replace the zipper with corset strings.

And she sent Casanova a personal video wishing her well, saying: "I love you, I'm so proud of you. I'm so excited for you. Dance like no one's watching, have the time of your life. Enjoy every single moment. Make smart decisions and let loose, girl. You look beautiful."

Casanova watched the video as she got into her limo and said she almost cried the makeup off her face.

"Gina's so beautiful inside and out," she said.

Casanova does have to return the dress and hopes another girl gets the same opportunity to wear it to her prom.

AP

Gina Rodriguez attends the The CW Network's 2016 Upfront Presentation on Thursday, May 19, 2016, in New York.

Boyfriend with secret child isn't worthy of woman's trust

DEAR ABBY: I have been seeing "Russell" for about a year. Last March he told me he had to move in with his grandmother because "he was the only bachelor in the family who could take care of her." Stupidly, I believed him.

Not long after that, I found out he had a pregnant girlfriend. I didn't let on that I knew, and we didn't see each other for about three months because he was "busy getting promoted at work." Now I have started seeing him again, and I just can't seem to let it go.

The problem is I still haven't told Russell I know about the girlfriend and the baby. I'm not sure how to go about letting him know I know what's going on. I can't bear the thought of him walking away from me again. How should I confront him? I'm in love, confused and heartbroken at the same time.

FOOL IN LOVE IN MIAMI

DEAR F.I.L.: Try this—a full-frontal assault of plain honesty. Tell him you know he slept with another woman and got her pregnant, and that story he told you about his grandmother was pure guano. Tell him you know he has stayed away because he preferred to be with someone else. Say that although you love him, you realize that as far as he's concerned, you're going cold turkey. THEN DO IT.

And if you haven't already, see your OB/GYN and ask to be checked for STDs now that you know the "man" you're in love with can't be trusted. There's an adage I'll share because it applies to you: The truth will set you free.

DEAR ABBY: If your office or family has a $20 limit on gift exchanges, and you find a $20 gift on sale for $10, is that considered a $20 gift or a $10 one?

PINCHING PENNIES IN OHIO

DEAR PINCHING: Prices are so fluid during some of the holidays that no one really knows the true "value" of what's being purchased anymore. If there is a $20 limit on what you're supposed to spend, it means you shouldn't spend any MORE than $20—and not much less than $20. If you find something marked $20 and can get it for less, you are a wise shopper—not a piker.

P.S. You can also just buy a $20 gift card and avoid the uncertainty.

DEAR ABBY: If a single woman is having relations with a married man, then she is known as his mistress. But what do you call a single man who is having relations with a married woman? Would he be a "mister"—or what?

CURIOUS IN MACON, GA.

DEAR CURIOUS: He could be referred to as her lover or paramour. According to the Urban Dictionary, he could also be called a "manstress." (If there is financial support involved, then he's a gigolo and she's a "sugar mama.")

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

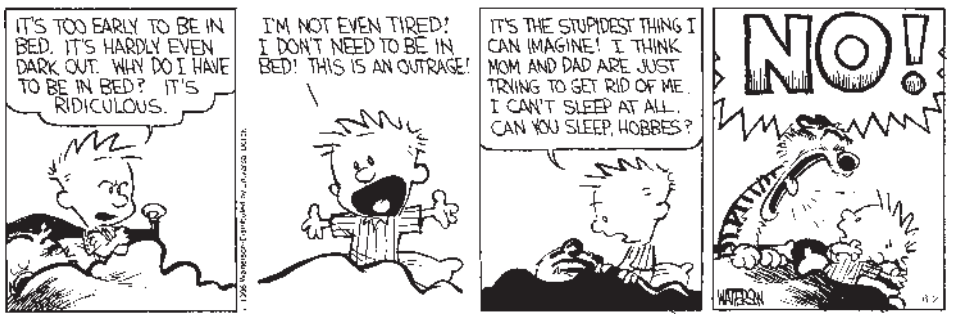
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


IT'S TOO EARLY TO BE IN BED. IT'S HARDLY EVEN DARK OUT. WHY DO I HAVE TO BE IN BED? IT'S RIDICULOUS.
I'M NOT EVEN TIRED! I DON'T NEED TO BE IN BED! THIS IS AN OUTRAGE!
IT'S THE STUPIDEST THING I CAN IMAGINE! I THINK MOM AND DAD ARE JUST TRYING TO GET RID OF ME. I CAN'T SLEEP AT ALL. CAN YOU SLEEP, HOBBES?
NO!
WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

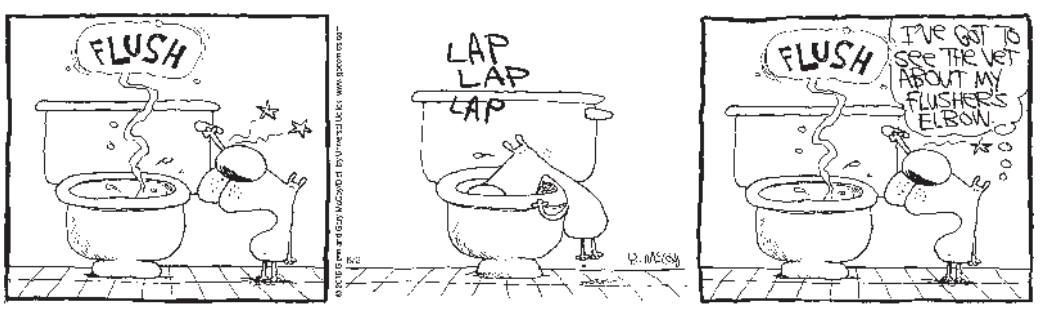
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WHAT ARE YOU MAKING?
FAKE BLOOD. THERE'S A RECIPE IN THIS BOOK.
I DON'T LIKE WHEN THE WORD "RECIPE" IS USED FOR SOMETHING I CAN'T EAT. LIKE CEMENT OR HOMEMADE BUGSPRAY OR SOMETHING.
A LITTLE PART OF ME GETS EXCITED... AND THEN I'M LET DOWN WHEN ITS NOT EDIBLE.
IT'S A RECIPE FOR DISASTER, FRANKLY.
MOM! HE'S "MUSING" AGAIN.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Vacuum's lack
4 Pop flavor
8 Deli loaves
12 Monk's title
13 Antique cars
14 "For — jolly good ..."
15 Protective barriers
17 — Bator
18 Short do
19 Water color?
21 Ritzy beach city
24 La-la lead-in
25 Ram's mate
26 Decade parts (Abbr.)
28 Knight wear
32 Sty chow
34 Napkin's place
36 Naked
37 Good — (fixed)
39 Tibetan bovine
41 Sony rival
42 Decay
44 Coffee-house bill collector
46 Cake in the shower
50 "O Sole —"
51 Sandwich treat
52 Feature of some stationery
56 Actress Lena
57 Ireland
58 Big fuss
59 Hawaiian coast
60 Seized vehicle
61 "Tasty!"

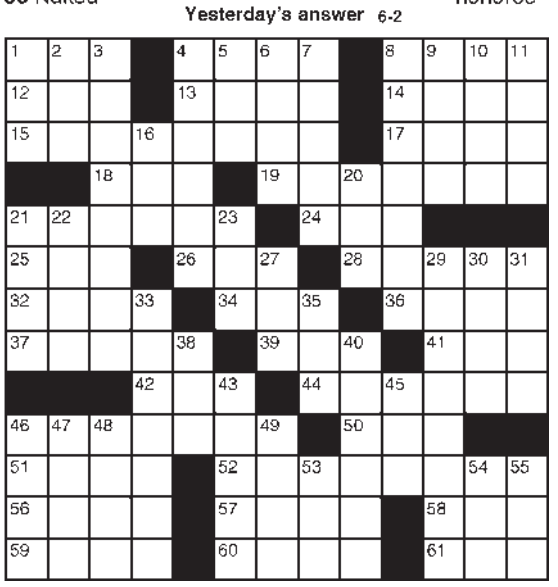
DOWN

1 Ghana's cont.
2 Nest egg acronym
3 Gab, gab, gab ...
4 Ill-natured
5 Not 'neath
6 Used car sites
7 Plus
8 Tart pie filling
9 Holler
10 Birthright barterer
11 Logical
16 Luau bowlful
20 Coach Parseghian
21 Butte's kin
22 Piercing tools
23 Online address
27 Utter
29 Mint family herb
30 Killer whale
31 Caboose
33 Public image
35 Bit of butter
38 Romance
40 Geisha's garment
43 Less wild
45 Glutton
46 Volume
47 Woody's son
48 Check
49 Skin opening
53 Chill in the air
54 USN bigwig
55 May honoree

Solution time: 24 mins.

P	A	L		D	O	A	S		P	I	A	F
O	R	O		I	O	N	E			S	L	E
E	C	O		E	X	T	R	I	C	A	T	E
M	O	N	E	T			A	N	N			
			S	E	M	I		T		M	E	S
N	E	U		R	I	N	O		C	A	L	C
I	C	K		S	L	U	M	P		G	E	T
B	R	E			D	I	E	T	R	I	C	H
S	U	S	A	N		T	R	O				
			M	O	D			L	E	A	K	Y
P	A	R		R	I	D	G	E		R	O	E
T	U	B	A		N	O	R	M		G	O	P
S	K	I	M		A	W	R	Y		D	K	S

Yesterday's answer 6-2



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Justin Long, 38; Zachary Quinto, 39; Dana Carvey, 61; Dennis Haysbert, 62.

Happy Birthday: Don't lose sight of your financial goals. Temptation will come from an unexpected source. Be prepared to say "no" and move on. Focusing on your personal and professional goals as well as your savings account will ensure that you end up in a stable and secure position. Get rid of what you don't need and protect what you do. Your numbers are 4, 11, 18, 23, 26, 38, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Accept the inevitable and keep moving forward. Your ability to pivot to new tasks will impress someone you'd like to work with. Personal development is encouraged and will help you ward off poor influences and judgment. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't trust anyone with your personal papers or your responsibilities. Broaden your horizons by signing up for a course or getting involved in community events. Old emotions will surface. Try not to display your feelings openly. Size up your situation. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You'll have trouble getting other people to see things your way. Try not to let this bother you. You are better off moving forward secretively to avoid opposition. A personal pick-me-up will help motivate you to do your best. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't wait until it's too late—if you have a good idea, share it with people who may be able to help you get your plan up and running. Offering a different perspective or method will prove to result in greater job efficiency. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Keep an open mind, but don't back down if you think you have a better plan. Showing patience will encourage others to consider doing things your way. Your hard work will pay off. Do something to celebrate your victory. Reward yourself. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Don't let anyone cajole you into taking part in something that is iffy or lacks substance. No matter who is involved or how good a deal sounds, protect your assets. Accept a conservative plan instead of a fast-cash scheme. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Reconnect with old friends. Attend a reunion or contact someone you have worked with in the past. You'll learn by retracing your steps and remembering situations that were similar to what you are currently dealing with. Romance is featured. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Your kindness and generosity will be recognized and rewarded. Offer help to your community or get involved in something that will give you more clout when it comes to decisions that will affect your lifestyle or financial situation. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Keep an open mind, but don't let anyone lead you astray. Listen carefully, but refuse to donate cash. Concentrate on personal improvements instead of trying to help others. Plan a special evening with someone you enjoy spending time with. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): With a couple of alterations at home or to the way you live, you will lower your overhead and ease stress. Don't let older or younger people in your life put demands on you. Call the shots and stay in control. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): You can stabilize your personal and professional life by making a couple of simple changes to your spending habits. If you don't take responsibility, an emotional situation is likely to escalate. Do your best to keep the peace. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You are best to put your efforts into community affairs or making your environment a better place to live. Trying to get along with those close to you won't be easy. Don't overreact or criticize the ones you love. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are kind, brave and insightful. You are intriguing and appealing.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		1				5		
				6				
2			7		3			1
		7		3		9		
	3		4		7		2	
		4		9		6		
1			2		5			9
				8				
		6				4		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/02

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	3	2	1	4	9	8	7	5
4	9	5	3	8	7	1	6	2
8	1	7	6	5	2	9	3	4
9	4	3	5	7	8	2	1	6
2	7	6	4	3	1	5	8	9
1	5	8	9	2	6	3	4	7
3	8	9	2	6	4	7	5	1
7	2	4	8	1	5	6	9	3
5	6	1	7	9	3	4	2	8

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/1

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

LEMURS — **Solution: 10 letters**

A	O	D	S	D	I	S	I	R	O	L	N	M	W	N
Z	N	I	A	A	I	N	I	H	O	A	D	N	R	R
A	A	A	E	R	D	O	U	B	I	P	O	H	I	E
L	R	D	V	R	A	B	P	M	R	I	R	T	G	H
A	I	E	I	A	B	I	I	O	T	E	L	O	H	T
M	B	M	T	A	O	S	N	A	R	E	E	L	T	U
A	M	E	R	S	O	S	N	A	A	H	S	S	B	O
H	A	D	O	R	Ⓝ	R	T	P	E	T	T	E	R	S
A	S	T	P	Ⓞ	E	E	E	N	I	B	T	N	O	E
S	T	W	Ⓢ	B	W	R	A	G	A	S	A	C	A	S
O	M	Ⓔ	I	C	S	G	I	B	I	N	I	S	E	E
G	O	H	F	L	A	D	O	L	P	A	A	N	A	E
N	O	S	A	A	D	O	E	R	L	T	S	M	C	L
O	R	A	K	D	N	O	E	Y	A	E	Y	A	A	C
L	E	S	A	E	W	G	R	K	S	M	E	L	L	R

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 6/2

Anthropoid, Aye-aye, Baboon, Basal, Betsileo, Clade, Cleese's, Daraina, Diademed, Digits, Gerp, Hibernation, Hubbard, Indri, Katas, Leapers, Long, Lorisids, Moore, Nose, Otto's, Petters, Prosimian, Ramanantsoavana, Sahamalaza, Sambirano, Senses, Sibree, Sifaka, Sloth, Smell, Social, Southern, Sportive, Torpor, Weasel, Wet, Wild, Wright

Yesterday's Answer: Showgirl

To purchase the **WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1 or #2**, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

(2) Fishermen, (1) Sales Representative. Minimum salary. Send resume to SMJ Corporation. P.O. Box 503944 Saipan, MP 96950.

---

1 Scuba Diving Instructor, $6.05/hr. Min. 5 years exp. Must speak, write & read Japanese. Certified by PADI. Napori Shoukai Inc. Tel. 235-2320

---

1 Supervisor: $1,200-$1,300/mo. College degree and at least 3 years' experience as a supervisor in a grocery store required. Email resume to dolim@hanmisaipan.com.

---

2 Automotive Mechanic (Radiator): $6.05-$6.55/hr. At least five years of experience, and specialty in radiator repair required. Email resume to grace@hanmisaipan.com.

---

1 Restaurant Manager (Korean cuisine): $6.05-$6.55/hr. At least 2 years' managerial experience in a restaurant specializing in Korean cuisine required. Email resume to kl@hanmisaipan.com.

---

1 Store Manager: $1,200-$1,300/mo. At least 2 years of experience as a clothing store manager is required. Korean speaking and writing fluency is required. Email resume to treasure@hanmisaipan.com.

---

2 Waiter/Waitress: $6.05-$6.55/hr. At least 2 years' experience required. Email resume to wing@hanmisaipan.com.

---

1 Operation Manager $9.72/hr. and (2) Camera Operators, Television, Video and Motion Picture $6.05/hr. Mail to Saipan TV Production. PMB 272 Box 10000 Saipan.

FOR LEASE

Land for Lease: 1,670 sq. meters in San Antonio. Located very close to PIC. Call 785-0880 for more info.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

AM MACHINE SHOP

(2) Machinist

At least 3 years experience
Knowledgeable in Modifying and Fabrication of parts

Contact Person: Adonis Santos
Contact No.: 323-2916

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Bookkeeper

- With 5 years minimum experience
- Must have strong communications skills and can work on flexible hours without supervision
- Knowledge in on-line marketing preferred

Please contact (670) 235-1004
from 1:00pm – 5:00pm
JOCELYN MONES TAITANO
Accounting Services and On-line Marketing

JWS Air Conditioning & Refrigeration.,
a leader in the field
of refrigeration and air conditioning,
and serving the CNMI, Guam and
Micronesia is seeking

Air Conditioning Service Technicians.

We are an innovative company
with continual growth.

Must be EPA Certified
Exceptional trouble shooting, repair
and service skills of various types of
A/C and Refrigeration equipment.
3 years Experience
Excellent Customer Service &
Communication Skills
Computer literate, tools of the trade essential

Email resume to jwssaipan@pticom.com
Or Call 670-235-5572 to Drop off Resume.

Francisco C. Cabrera
dba Design Florist/Cabrera Funeral

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Flower Arranger
- Must have at least 3 years experience.
- Able to work flexible hours.

(1) Funeral Service Assistant
- Must have a driver's licence.
- Able to work flexible hours.
- Good personality.

All interested applicant must apply in person.
Cabrera Center Bldg., Beach Road, Garapan

AUTO MARINE INCORPORATION
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) Mechanic
- At least 3 yrs experience
- Must have knowledge in Boat and Auto repair

(2) Automotive Specialty Technician
- At least 3 yrs experience
- Must have knowledge in overhauling of boat and car computer box

Contact Person: Adonis Santos
Contact No.: 323-2916

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Garbage Collector Supervisor – Experienced in supervising and coordinating activities of workers engaged in collecting garbage and other refuse and transporting to disposal plants or areas. With valid driving license. Hardworking and trustworthy. Willing to work flexible time.

(2) Trash Collector – At least High School graduate. With valid driver's license. Needs to be physically fit and willing to work flexible time and must be hardworking.

(2) Maintenance – At least high school graduate . A valid driver's license. Ability to use efficiently various power and hand tools. Knows how to follow oral written instructions and can communicate efficiently and fluently in both witten and oral form.

(1) Auto Mechanic – Must have atleast 2 yrs. work related experience. Excellent diagnostic/ repair skills of vehicle systems. High self motivation.

(2) Househelper – Knowledge in cooking Chinese,Japanese, Thai, Cuisine is a must. Experienced in household chores like cleaning, ironing, gardening, paying bills, and baby sitting. With valid driver's license.

Submit Applications To:
AYD Services Inc. Tel. # (670)235-7011

G4S

Job Vacancy Announcement

• Security Officers (25)
• Lifeguards (5)
• IT Administrator (1)
• Operations Supervisor (1)

Submit applications, police clearance, and copy of certification at G4S Office located at Beach Road Ladera Building, Chalan Lau-lau. For more information call (670) 233-3238/39 or email at cnmi@gu.g4s.com
www.g4s.mp

EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY: G4S is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Employer and observes all federal employment opportunity regulations, practices and policies. Federal Law requires presentation of proof of identity and eligibility to work in the United States. We comply with this law on a nondiscriminatory basis. Must be 18 years or older and must be able to speak, read and write English. Open to all qualified U.S. Workers without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex citizenship and is in compliance with Title II of the Genetics Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA). This job is open to all U.S. Veterans, Persons with Disabilities and Women In Non-traditional occupations that are qualified, willing, able and available to perform the job.

CHONG'S CORPORATION
Job Vacancy Announcement

Six (6) TECHNICIANS-AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION
- Install, service and repair of Central Air-conditioning, Refrigeration and Ventilation Systems
- Repair and service of Chilled Water Air-conditioning System
- Perform repair and trouble analysis of VAV and VVT Control Systems
- Perform Computer based Control System

Other requirements:
- Minimum 5-year work experience required
- EPA Section 608 (Certifications required)
- Maintenance Technician & Electrical Safety Course in accordance with 29CFR 1910 Standard (Preferable)
- Must possess good communication skill

One (1) HEAD TECHNICIAN-AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION
- Read and interpret blueprints, technical drawings, schematics and computer-generated reports
- Establish and coordinate maintenance and safety procedures, service schedule and supply of materials required to maintain equipment
- Oversee installation, operation, maintenance and repair to ensure equipment are functioning according to specifications
- Install, service and repair of Central Air-conditioning, Refrigeration and Ventilation Systems
- Repair and service of Chilled Water Air-conditioning System
- Perform repair and trouble analysis of VAV and VVT Control Systems
- Perform Computer based Control System

Other requirements:
- Minimum 5-year work experience required
- 4-year Bachelor of Science degree from reputable College or University
- Must possess good communication skill

Two (2) SHEET METAL WORKERS
- Fabricate and install sheet metal & fiberglass products & equipment such as ducts, control boxes, drain pipes & furnace casings
- Set-up and operate fabricating equipment and machines, soldering and welding equipment
- Must be knowledgeable in interpreting plans and specifications
- Minimum 5-year work experience required

One (1) HVAC/R SALES REPRESENTATIVE
- Knowledgeable of HVAC-R Equipment and Parts sale
- Knowledgeable of product selection, listing of order and inventory
- Must be proficient on Computer Software such as Peachtree Accounting System, MS Excel and MS Word
- Minimum 3-year work experience required

E-mail resume to chongs@pticom.com

Saipan Adventures, Inc.

is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(3) Customer Service Specialist
High school diploma or equivalent. Two (2) months work experience in Travel or Tour operation or sales or service based work environment. Fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese languages. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends.

(1) Customer Service Agent
High School Diploma or equivalent with at least two (2) months work experience in travel/tour operation or sales or service based work environment, room reservations and vendor relations. Must be proficient in Microsoft Office applications (Excel, MS Word, Outlook, Power Point). Fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese languages. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Able to drive tourists safely through various tour routes.

Interested applicants may send their applications to savi_recruitment@tanholdings.com.
To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than June 10, 2016. Applications for Employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the Century Tours Office, Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe Village. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Saipan Adventures is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

WHATZIT Solution: Head-on collision

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	**$15**	**$30**
• 5-Liner	**$24**	**$45**

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find today's solution in classified section

Cavs' challenge in rematch: How to slow, not stop, Curry

AP

In this June 14, 2015, file photo, Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry, left, is guarded by Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James during the second half of Game 5 of basketball's NBA Finals in Oakland, Calif. James knows there's no stopping Stephen Curry.

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio (AP)—LeBron James has already felt the stinging spray from the Splash Brothers in the NBA Finals.

When league MVP Stephen Curry and trigger-happy Golden State teammate Klay Thompson are knocking down 3-pointers from 30 feet, swishing contested jumpers over taller players and destroying defenses designed to stop them, the only option is pray they miss.

"Some of those shots," James said. "There's nothing you can do about it."

As the Cavaliers, considerably healthier than they were a year ago, prepare to take on the 73-win Warriors in the finals again, they know their chances of ending Cleveland's 52-year championship drought hinge on how well they defend Curry, Thompson & Co.

Stopping the Warriors is impossible. Slowing them isn't.

"They shoot the ball extremely well," James said before the team left for California and Game 1 on Thursday. "Klay and Steph are probably the two greatest shooters that we've probably ever seen. Better offense beats great defense any day. So we have to be able to do other things to stop them, but it's hard to contain them.

"We all know that. The whole league knows that. Our team knows that. But we have a game plan and we have to follow it and be true to it."

Although they won't admit it publicly, the Cavs have been eyeing a rematch with the Warriors since losing to them in six games last year.

James back then was virtually on his own after Kevin Love separated his left shoulder in the first round and Kyrie Irving shattered his left kneecap in Game 1 of the finals. James did everything possible, averaging 35.8 points, 13.3 rebounds and 8.8 assists - an unprecedented finals stat line—but it wasn't enough. The Warriors had too much ball movement, athleticism and depth.

While fans, the league office and TV executives clamored for a Curry-James rematch, the Cavs claim they were ready for any opponent.

"It didn't matter," said James, appearing in his sixth straight finals. "Like Coach (Tyronn) Lue said, we're just waiting on the winner. We're fortunate to be here and we look forward to the challenge. It's an unbelievable team that we're going against. Hats off."

This time around, the Cavs have comparable talent.

That won't matter, though, if they don't defend.

Curry appears back to normal after dealing with a knee injury earlier in the postseason, and Thompson made a postseason-record 11 3s and scored 41 in Game 6 of the Western Conference finals. The Warriors erased a 3-1 deficit to end Oklahoma City's season and set up Golden State vs. Cleveland, the sequel.

Irving will likely be matched up with Curry. But it won't fall solely on him to check the game's purest shooter.

J.R. Smith has been Cleveland's best defender all season, and at 6-foot-6, his size could give Curry (generously listed as 6-3) some trouble. Matthew Dellavedova tenaciously hounded Curry in last year's finals until he exhausted himself and wound up hospitalized. James, too, will guard Curry in certain situations.

One of Cleveland's primary challenges will be the way it deals with Golden State's pick and rolls designed to get Curry mismatches. Thunder center Serge Ibaka found himself isolated on Curry late in Monday's Game 7 and committed a costly foul trying to block a 3.

The Warriors expose weaknesses.

"It's tough," Lue said of combating Golden State's screens. "It's one of two things: either you can switch and have a big (man) on Curry and have him take the shots over your big or you can double-team Steph and throw it back to Draymond (Green), who's probably the best playmaker at that position in the league and now you have a four-on-three or a three-on-two. So you got to pick your poison."

Golden State shot its way back against Oklahoma City, draining a league record 90 3-pointers to complete a comeback Lue feels only heightens the aura around these modern-day Western gunslingers.

The Cavs learned in last year's finals they can't leave Curry and Thompson for a millisecond.

"You always have to have your antennas up," Lue said. "You can never relax because they're always moving. We got to be sharp and stick to our principles and know what we're supposed to do."

The Cavs will study scouting reports and break down film to be ready.

And, even then, James knows that may not be enough.

"You still gotta try to stop them," he said. "And that's a tall task."

Will OKC's playoff run keep Durant in Thunder uniform?

OAKLAND (AP)—Kevin Durant sat at the press conference table with Russell Westbrook by his side, the two friends and teammates trying to get their minds around letting a 3-1 lead in the Western Conference finals slip away.

It didn't take long for Durant to face a question about his future in Oklahoma City.

"We just lost like 30 minutes ago, so I haven't even thought about it," Durant said after a Game 7 loss to the Warriors ended the Thunder's season. "... I'll think about that stuff, I don't know when. But we just lost an hour ago, 30 minutes ago, so I don't know."

While it may have been too soon for Durant to think about his long-term future, the question has loomed over the franchise for more than a year. The all-world scorer will become a free agent on July 1 and will be the most coveted player on the market.

The way the Thunder, and several other teams, performed in the playoffs this spring could go a long way toward whether star free agents choose to stay home or seek bigger money or a perceived better chance of winning elsewhere.

Toronto's DeMar DeRozan, Atlanta's Al Horford, Memphis point guard Mike Conley and Houston's Dwight Howard are among those who figure to become free agents this summer when the NBA's new television deal will kick in. Every team in the league will have major salary cap space, which could turn a solid free agent crop into a feeding frenzy as executives try to get a handle on a new normal for player salaries.

LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Dirk Nowitzki are among the superstars who can technically become free agents by exercising player option's in their contracts. But all three are expected to stay put after signing new deals with their teams in July.

For much of the season, Durant didn't appear to be a candidate in that group of players firmly expected to stay put. The Thunder took some time to come together under new coach Billy Donovan and appeared to be a step behind the Western Conference elites in Golden State and San Antonio. After nine seasons with the franchise without a championship, Durant could follow in James' footsteps and leave the team that drafted him in search of one that delivered a better chance to finally grab the trophy. James went to Miami in 2010 and won two championships and went to the NBA Finals twice more before returning home to Cleveland in 2014.

The Washington Wizards were one of the teams most often mentioned as a landing spot for Durant, who is from the D.C. area. But then the Thunder went on a stirring run in the playoffs, beating the 67-win Spurs in the conference semifinals and pushing the defending champions to the brink in the West finals.

Durant and his Roc Nation representation have done a good job of keeping information close to the vest, so it remains a mystery as to which way he is leaning. But after coming so close to returning to the NBA Finals, and with a superstar as bright as Westbrook by his side, it now would be a surprise to see him uproot from a community he loves to chase a championship elsewhere.

"I'm just proud of what all we've been through this season," Durant said. "We stuck together and we sacrificed for each other. That's just what makes this game so special."

The Raptors may have similarly helped their cause by taking James and the Cavaliers to six games in the Eastern Conference finals. DeRozan has blossomed into an All-Star during his seven years in Toronto and formed a tight bond with point guard Kyle Lowry that could keep him from looking for greener pastures.

"Our No. 1 goal is to bring DeMar back here," Raptors GM Masai Ujiri said. "We feel great that he wants to come back to our organization. I spoke to him (after Game 6), and his eyes were still red. You could tell. He said he felt empty the next day, which was telling."

Other teams have their work cut out for them after playoff flame outs. The Rockets were one of the league's most disappointing teams and were dispatched by the Warriors in the first round, and Howard is expected to opt out of his contract to look for a new team after not meshing with star guard James Harden.

The Grizzlies overcame myriad injuries to make the playoffs, but were still bounced in the first round. Now Conley is a free agent and the organization hopes that his close relationship with Marc Gasol will keep him in Memphis.

And in Atlanta, Al Horford is an unrestricted free agent on a team that has not been able to overcome the Cavaliers in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

But it all starts with Durant, whose decision stands to have a lasting impact on how the rest of the summer unfolds.

"We're all upset," Durant said. "We wanted to get a chance to play for a championship in the finals, so that hurts.

"But when you sit down and look back at what happened throughout the season, you can be proud of not just the players, but everybody in the organization from the top to the bottom."

Dodgers snap Arrieta's streak, shut down Cubs

CHICAGO (AP)—Scott Kazmir and two relievers combined on a one-hitter, matching zeros with Cubs ace Jake Arrieta before the Los Angeles Dodgers got to Chicago's bullpen for a 5-0 victory Tuesday night.

Arrieta went seven scoreless innings, but was denied his 21st consecutive victory. The Cubs had won in Arrieta's last 23 starts.

Cubs left-hander Clayton Richard (0-1) gave up three straight singles to lefties in the eighth, the last Adrian Gonzalez's liner to left that scored Chase Utley and ended the Dodgers' 16-inning scoreless streak.

Corey Seager hit a three-run homer off Trevor Cahill in the ninth.

AP

Chicago Cubs' Anthony Rizzo, right, appears to tag Los Angeles Dodgers' Trayce Thompson at first but Thompson was called safe by umpire Adrian Johnson during the fourth inning of a baseball game Tuesday, May 31, 2016, in Chicago.

Red Sox 6, Orioles 2

In Baltimore, Mookie Betts hit a career-high three homers and drove in five runs, and the Boston Red Sox cruised past the Baltimore Orioles to open a three-game lead in the AL East.

Red Sox shortstop Xander Bogaerts stretched his career-best hitting streak to 24 games with a single in the seventh inning.

White Sox 6, Mets 4

In New York, Tyler Saladino hit a go-ahead homer in the eighth inning and Chicago rallied from an early four-run deficit, stopping a seven-game losing streak with a victory over New York.

Todd Frazier's two-run drive was his 16th homer this season, giving him the major league lead.

Angels 11, Tigers 9

In Anaheim, C.J. Cron ended the game with his second homer, and Los Angeles blew a seven-run lead before rallying for a victory over Detroit.

Cron's two-run shot to left against Mark Lowe (1-3) was the ninth homer of the game in a park that isn't known for power hitting, particularly at night.

Nationals 5, Phillies 1

In Philadelphia, Daniel Murphy hit one of four Washington home runs, Joe Ross allowed three hits in seven innings and the Nationals beat Philadelphia for their third straight win.

NL MVP Bryce Harper missed the game, a day after he bruised his right knee when hit by a pitch.

Royals 10, Rays 5

In Kansas City, Lorenzo Cain homered and drove in four runs as Kansas City beat Tampa Bay, extending its winning streak to a season-best five games.

The Royals, who have won six straight series, took a two-game lead in the AL Central after being seven games out and in fourth place on May 10.

Rockies 17, Reds 4

In Denver, Nolan Arenado and Charlie Blackmon each hit two of Colorado's team record-tying seven homers, powering the Rockies to a win over Cincinnati.

Blackmon became the first player in Rockies history to hit leadoff homers in back-to-back games and added his first career grand slam in the seventh.

Giants 4, Braves 0

In Atlanta, Jake Peavy faced the minimum 21 batters through seven innings, Denard Span drove in two runs with three hits and San Francisco beat Atlanta.

Four relievers finished the combined one-hitter.

Rangers 7, Indians 3

In Cleveland, Colby Lewis allowed two hits over six shutout innings, leading Texas over Cleveland and improving to 5-0 for the first time in his major league career.

Bryan Holaday and Jurickson Profar homered off Corey Kluber (4-6), and the AL West-leading Rangers won for the ninth time in their last 11 games.

Blue Jays 4, Yankees 1

In Toronto, Kevin Pillar singled home the go-ahead run in the seventh inning and made a highlight-reel diving catch in center field to help Toronto give New York its fifth loss in seven games.

Justin Smoak homered and Darwin Barney hit a two-run single as the Blue Jays won for the 12th time in 16 meetings with the Yankees.

Marlins 3, Pirates 1

In Miami, Jose Fernandez pitched seven scoreless innings to help Miami beat Gerrit Cole and Pittsburgh.

Christian Yelich had a tie-breaking RBI single in the seventh, J.T. Realmuto had three hits for the Marlins and A.J. Ramos pitched a shaky ninth for his 16th save.

Cardinals 10, Brewers 3

In Milwaukee, Matt Carpenter tied his season high with four hits for the second straight game, scored four times and drove in two runs to lead St. Louis over Milwaukee.

Jedd Gyorko hit a three-run homer, and Mike Leake (4-4) allowed five hits, walked one and struck out four over six innings.

Astros 8, Diamondbacks 5

In Phoenix, George Springer finished a triple shy of the cycle and had four RBI to spark Houston in a victory over Arizona.

Springer doubled on the first pitch of the game, hit a three-run homer off Patrick Corbin (2-5) in the second inning and added a run-scoring single off the left-hander in the fourth.

Mariners 16, Padres 4

In Seattle, Seth Smith hit two of Seattle's five home runs and finished with four RBI, Adam Lind and Kyle Seager both hit three-run homers and the Mariners pummeled San Diego.

The Mariners battered starter James Shields (2-7), didn't let up against reliever Luis Perdomo and had their biggest run output since scoring 21 against Texas in 2012.

Athletics 7, Twins 4

In Oakland, Danny Valencia homered and drove in three runs, Stephen Vogt had three hits and drove in two and Oakland won its fourth straight by beating Minnesota.

Ryan Dull (1-0) ended a scoring threat in the fifth and finished with 1 1/3 scoreless innings for the win.

Players blast rain-hit French Open

PARIS (AP)—Yes, they actually managed to complete a match on this wettest of weeks at the French Open. Two, even. And both involved surprises: Two of the top half-dozen seeded women lost within minutes of each other, No. 2 Agnieszka Radwanska and No. 6 Simona Halep.

After their fourth-round exits Tuesday, both Radwanska and Halep complained firmly about tournament organizers' decision to make them play through drizzles—or worse—that made courts slippery and clay-caked tennis balls heavy.

"I mean, it's not a (low-tier) tournament. It's a Grand Slam. How can you allow players to play in the rain?" said Radwanska, the 2012 Wimbledon runner-up.

"I don't think they really care what we think. I think they care about other things," Radwanska added, saying her racket-wielding right hand gave her problems because she had surgery on it years ago.

Halep sounded a similar tone, noting it was "impossible to play," and saying: "No one cares about the players, in my opinion. I don't care that I lost the match today, but I was close to (getting) injured."

Radwanska dropped 10 consecutive games while being beaten 2-6, 6-3, 6-3 by 102nd-ranked Tsvetana Pironkova of Bulgaria. Shortly before that, Halep lost 7-6 (0), 6-3 to No. 21 Sam Stosur in a contest between two past finalists at Roland Garros.

Alas, of the 12 singles matches on Tuesday's schedule, those were the only two that finished. Four men's fourth-rounders—including No. 1 Novak Djokovic against No. 14 Roberto Bautista Agut—were suspended in progress. Four women's fourth-rounders—including two involving the Williams sisters—never started at all, nor did two men's quarterfinals.

Halep wondered aloud whether those in charge of the French Open insisted on going forward with matches in the rain because they ''are scared" about completing the tournament on time. All play was washed out Monday, the first full day lost at the event in 16 years.

"Not their fault," she said. "But the decisions were not, I think, the best."

Radwanska vs. Pironkova originally began Sunday, and Radwanska was three games from victory at 3-0 in the second set when play was suspended. They didn't make it back on court until Tuesday, began more than an hour late because of more rain, played for about a half-hour, then were halted by a 2 1/2-hour delay.

There were stretches when action proceeded despite drops falling, and—perhaps not surprisingly, given that she won—Pironkova was OK with that.

"Well, it happened before, of course. We have played in all sorts of conditions. Usually if the court is not fit for play, like if it's slippery, they would cancel the match right away," said Pironkova, who reached her first French Open quarterfinal. "But today the court was still hanging in. It was OK. We could have played, and so we did."

The Stosur-Halep match was suspended Sunday during the first set. And 2011 U.S. Open champion Stosur—wearing a green long-sleeved shirt against the chill of temperatures in the 50s (about 15 degrees Celsius)—was better throughout Tuesday.

"It's not good out there," Stosur said, "but it was fine for us."

She is into the quarterfinals in Paris for the fourth time.

"It was really tough, obviously, with the start-stop and having a day off and everything," Stosur said. "Once you're out there and it's raining, it's not so nice, but that's the way it is."

Four of the top 11 players remain in the women's tournament: No. 1 Serena Williams, No. 4 Garbine Muguruza, No. 8 Timea Bacsinszky and No. 9 Venus Williams. Only Muguruza is already into the quarterfinals; the other three will wait until Wednesday to try to join her.

Djokovic split the first two sets with Bautista Agut as they went on and off court, able to get a total of only 2 hours of playing time.

Djokovic was leading 4-1 in the third when they were interrupted for good Tuesday, along with the other men's fourth-round matches: Tomas Berdych vs. David Ferrer, David Goffin vs. Ernests Gulbis, and Dominic Thiem vs. Marcel Granollers.

During one break, Djokovic, seeking to win a fourth consecutive major title and complete a career Grand Slam, wandered around Court Philippe Chatrier to check the weather, borrowing a green-and-orange Roland Garros umbrella from a fan.

All eyes on Klinsmann's lineup decisions

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — The U.S. national team has made it to the final leg of its pre-Copa America preparations, arriving in this San Francisco suburb on Sunday night, ahead of Friday's tournament opener against Colombia. Three friendlies have come and gone, and now Jurgen Klinsmann will be left with just a few more days to make his final lineup decisions for the kickoff clash.

Just how many decisions are really left to be made? Based on how the two recent friendlies went, and how Klinsmann managed his roster, it appears that many lineup spots are set in stone. Michael Bradley should be a lock to occupy the defensive midfield role in the 4-3-3 system we have seen in recent weeks, leaving Kyle Beckerman on the bench. Brad Guzan was named the starting goalkeeper before training camp began, taking the mystery out of a positional battle Klinsmann couldn't afford to continue during the Copa America.

Realistically there are only a handful of spots truly up for grabs, and as far as the Colombia match goes, even these battles may have already been decided. That said, these lineup decisions are ones Klinsmann will be considering throughout the tournament. Those who aren't chosen to start against Colombia may still get their chance during the group stage.

There are three U.S. positional battles in particular that are setting up to be good ones throughout the Copa America. Here is a closer look:

The rush to anoint Pulisic as the savior of American soccer is in full effect, and as much as Pulisic has earned the blooming adoration with impressive form in limited minutes, the hysteria is making it easy for some to overlook the fact he is still very inexperienced.

Zardes has an edge right now because of his physical presence up top, and overall work rate. Klinsmann is putting a premium on fielding a lineup with the defensive capabilities to make things difficult for Colombia, and Zardes covers more ground than any other attacker on the team.

AP

U.S. forward Christian Pulisic (17) is congratulated by his teammates after scoring against Bolivia in the second half of an international friendly soccer match, Saturday, May. 28, 2016, in Kansas City, Kan.

Is Zardes' defensive work really enough to give him the nod over Pulisic? That isn't his only advantage. As fearless as Pulisic looks — and the kid absolutely has the makings of a future star — he has only started a handful of games above the youth level. He showed well in starts for Borussia Dortmund, but he has never started in a meaningful game where his team wasn't the clear favorite.

Does that mean Pulisic couldn't cut it against Colombia? Not necessarily, but Zardes has an experience edge, and defensive qualities that make him more well-suited to help carry out Klinsmann's game plan in the opening match. That said, Pulisic hasn't exactly been a slouch on the defensive side in recent appearances. It is clear Klinsmann has emphasized that part of the job to the youngster. Pulisic has done well to show his ability to contribute on both sides of the ball, which could help lead to a chance to start at some point in the tournament.

Normally, it would seem silly to be questioning whether a player who just had a two-assist game like Bedoya should still be a starter in the next match, but there is no denying that Nagbe has made a very strong case for starting against Colombia.

The Timbers midfielder put together his second straight gem against Bolivia, coming off the bench once again to dazzle with his poise, clean passing and movement. He completed 26 of 28 passes, including the assist on Pulisic's goal. In total, Nagbe completed 59 of 61 passes over the team's past two friendlies, providing a goal and assist.

So why is Bedoya still the choice against Colombia? Experience is key here too. Nagbe has yet to start a national team match, while Bedoya has played in a World Cup and is coming off a strong season with Ligue 1 side Nantes. He has played mostly as a winger during his time under Klinsmann, but he has also spent more time playing in central midfield with Nantes in the past year and has made it clear he prefers playing in the middle.

Sure, there may be some lingering bad taste from Bedoya's disastrous foray into a defensive midfield role against Brazil last fall, but that is in no way the same thing as the two-way central role Klinsmann has him playing in the 4-3-3. That position plays to Bedoya's strengths, and we saw a glimpse of what he can bring to that role against Bolivia.

Klinsmann is angling toward starting Bedoya in the middle on Friday, so he can keep pressure on Colombia's attacking threats in a more consistent way than Nagbe would.

"Ale's role, if it's a wide role or a role more inside, it depends on what system we play, it depends on what is needed, it depends on who we play against and so on," Klinsmann said. "This is always the different pieces that we are discussing up and down because we don't have the luxury to say that we ignore what the opponent is doing and just do what we want. That's not the case.

"We are not Brazil or Argentina or Germany or Spain. We have to have an eye on what Colombia is coming with, with [Juan] Cuadrado or [Carlos] Bacca or James Rodriguez, and then we have to put the pieces together."

CNMI

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Dela Justen, and the host's Darla Jonah.

In the women's open 100m qualifying run, the Commonwealth has only one entry in Zarinae Sapong, who will be up against Chuuk's Marie Carmella Robert, Sinsina Kau, and Milly-Ika-Lady Britt, the Marshall Islands' Ilania Keju, and Pohnpei's Lerissa Henry and Daimontra Paul.

The men's open 100m preliminary heats are also set today with Ben Jones Jr. carrying the fight for the CNMI. Fifteen other runners are entered in the qualifying heat led by the favored Benon Kin of Chuuk and home bets Roy Elwise, Steve Mendiola, and Kitson Kapiriel.

After the men's 100m heats and two more events in the women's heptathlon, Shankweiler and Horey will return to the track to race in the 400m run. After her running event, Horey will proceed to the long jump area to join Salvosa in the U18 contest.

The men's 400m preliminary races are also slated today with Beo Ngirchongor and Leowell Cristobal representing the CNMI. Fourteen other runners will compete in the men's open 40m run.

In the men's open discus throw, the Commonwealth has three bets in Sylvan Rangamar, Daniel Joab, and Nick Gross. The three CNMI athletes will be facing Pohnpei's Daniel Ekiek and Dison Soumei, Guam's Henry Lizama and Justin Andre, and Nauru's Christophe Esela, and Joseph Dabana.

Meanwhile, the other members of the CNMI team—Conatsu Kaga and Jerald Castillo—will debut in the MAC tomorrow and the rest of the squad will have their other events this Saturday. Kaga is entered in the women's U18's 800m, 1,500m, and 3,000m runs, while Castillo will race in the 100m and 200m runs.

BRAVES

From Page 28

based on 12 or more innings pitched and the final rankings will be determined once the statistics of the last two games in the regular season are tallied. The regular season concluded last Saturday with the Falcons and the Enforcers ending up tied for the top spot with their similar 9-3 records, but the former went on to win the pennant after prevailing in a rubber match last Sunday, 2-0.

The batting stats of last Saturday's matches have yet to be included, too, in the information released by SLLB organizers, so Tudela is still ahead after going 17-for-35 at the plate. The Falcons' Aven Evangelista is in second place with his .450 batting average off an 18-for-40 performance at bat. Vicente Camacho is ranked third .428), while Dickinson (.421) and the Braves' Philip Kapileo (.421) rounded out the Top 5.

Kapileo has the most RBIs so far with 11, just ahead by one against the Enforcers' Dennis Cabrera, who leads the division in triples with 3. Tudela and Evangelista, on the other hand, pace the doubles and runs contests with 6 and 16, respectively.

Meanwhile, in the Senior League, the Comets' Ethan Babauta is lording it over both in the batting and pitching races.

As of May 22, Babauta has posted a batting average of .468. He was 15-for-32 at the plate to place ahead of the Red Sox's Delin Reusora (.466) and Kimo Angailen (.463), Richard Atalig (.439), and Ace Evangelista (.432) of the pennant champions Falcons.

Though ranked fourth in the batting chart, Atalig is ahead in three other categories: home run (2), RBIs (14), and strikeouts (51). Reusora and the Enforcers' Virgil Secharmidal have the most triples and runs with 3 and 17.

In the pitching contest, Babauta has gained a 0.38 ERA after allowing only two runs in 36 innings pitched. His teammate—Brandon Pua—also gave up two runs, but pitched only 20 innings, leaving the latter with the second-best ERA of 0.70. Secharmidal (0.87), the Red Sox's Tindin Leon Guerrero (1.00) and Atalig (1.02) are in the Top 5.

OL'ACES

From Page 28

to neutralize the Ol'Aces offense, as the latter even stretched their lead to 25 at the break, 51-26. Freddie Pelisamen took over from Schmidt, firing 8 points in the second canto.

The Ol'Aces went on to keep their big lead, as Schmidt returned in the second half and poured in more points, while Preston Basa began hitting shots from downtown to deliver the killer blows.

Schmidt paced the Ol'Aces with his 27 points, while Pelisamen and Basa chipped in 13 each.

While the Ol'Aces hammered the Runnin' Rebels right at the get-go of their semis game, it was a different story for Ali'i Blue Haus.

The first finalist fell behind in the first three periods and even stared a double-digit deficit at halftime before mounting a comeback in the fourth to steal the win from the Ballers.

The Ballers enjoyed a 40-29 halftime lead and were still on top at the end of the third, 52-47, but eventually lost the semis match when Angelo Fernando led Ali'i Blue Haus' rally in the final frame. Fernando, who was held to 6 points in the first three periods, had 10 in the final canto and drew a lot of help from his teammates to overhaul the Ballers' lead.

Ivan Devero had 6 of his 7 markers in the pivotal fourth, while Darwin Barbo, Elmer Esdrelon, Bart Demapan, and Brendon Talania combined for 12 points—the same output the entire Ballers' crew made in the fourth-quarter meltdown.

The Ballers were held to six field goals in the fourth frame with only Ken Viray and Chris Lilles nailing more than one field goal for the squad. Each scored 4 points, while Dexter Tenorio and James Villacrusis recorded 2 markers apiece. Viray had earlier finished the half with 15 points to lift the Ballers to the 11-point edge at the half before his team collapsed.

First Game

Ali'i Blue Haus 75 — Fernando 16, Barbo 11, De Dios 8, Demapan 8, Esdrelon 8, Devero 7, Manalo 6, Berline 5, Talania 2.

Ballers 64 — Viray 22, Villacrusis 14, Ferrer 8, Lilles 6, Camacho 4, Pagarao 4.

Scoring by quarters: 7-18, 29-40, 47-52, 75-64.

Second Game

Ol'Aces 98 — Schmidt 27, Pelisamen 13, Basa 13, Villacrusis 7, Deleon Guerrero 7, Rabauliman 7, Santos 6, Libus 5, Lizama 4, Barcinas 4.

Runnin' Rebels 59 — Reyes 14, Lisua 11, Deleon Guerrero 10, Fitial 5, Ogarto 5, Camacho 4, Mettao 4, Pangelinan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 30-10, 51-26, 71-41, 98-59.

Tsunami Saipan Swimmers at Guam Championships

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Tsunami Saipan swimmers and coach Hiro Kimura pose for a photo after competing in the 2016 Guam Championships held over the weekend at the Hagatna Pool.

Isaiah Aleksenko races in the 200m freestyle event.

Sean Gil competes in the 100m freestyle race.

Risa Sekiguchi gasps for air during the 100m freestyle race.

Aasish Dangol participates in the 50m breaststroke race.

Angel De Jesus plunges into the pool for the 50m butterfly event.

Sophia Gauran gets ready at the starting block for the 200m freestyle event.

Aika Watanabe nears completion of the 100m backstroke race.

Nelson Batallones swims in the 100m butterfly event.

Cavs' challenge in rematch: How to slow, not stop, Curry

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Ol'Aces, Ali'i Blue Haus set title series

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Ol'Aces' Douglas Schmidt drives to the baseline against the Runnin' Rebels' Shane Deleon Guerrero, partly hidden, and Kelvin Fitial during the fourth quarter of their semis game in the island-wide caging last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Ol'Aces and Ali'i Blue Haus arranged their finals series in the 2016 Island-wide Men's Basketball League after prevailing in their respective semis matches last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Ali'i Blue Haus rallied past the Ballers in the curtain-raiser, 75-64, while the Ol'Aces pummeled the Runnin' Rebels in the second Final Four pairing, 98-59. The Ol'Aces and Ali'i Blue Haus begin their best-of-three title showdown tonight at 7pm, while Game 2 is set for this Saturday at the same time. Game 3, if necessary, will take place on June 7.

The Ol'Aces eased their way to the finals as they caught the Runnin' Rebels flat-footed in the first quarter. The second finalists took a commanding 30-10 advantage after the opening canto behind the 11 points of Douglas Schmidt. The Ol'Aces gunner fired up his team's offense by knocking in three early triples. Six other Ol'Aces players also scored in the opening 10 minutes of play to more than double-up the Runnin' Rebels' output. Only Juan Ogarto nailed more than a field goal in the Runnin' Rebels' slow start after burying a triple and making a layup.

The Runnin' Rebels picked up their scoring a bit in the second half, but they failed

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Braves, Comets players stand out

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Braves pitcher makes eye contact with his catcher before throwing against the Red Sox during their Junior League regular season game in the SLLB at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Braves maybe out of race for the Junior League division crown, but their two players are still in the hunt for the batting and pitching top honors.

Joe Tudela, as of May 22, is on top of the batting chart with his .485 average, while his teammate Vicente Camacho leads the pitching contest with his 0.63 ERA.

Camacho gave up two runs in 22 innings pitch to lead four others in the race for the pitching champ trophy. The Braves pitcher is ahead of the Enforcers' Pedro Maratita (0.70 ERA) and J.P Celis (0.75) and the Falcons' Spencer Dickinson (0.96) and Tyrese Camacho (1.03). Maratita also gave up two runs in 20 innings, while Celis allowed three earned runs in 28 innings. Dickinson and Tyrese Camacho surrendered four runs each in 29 and 27 innings pitched, respectively, and the latter has the most strikeouts (48).

The pitching leaders were

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CNMI begins bid in MAC today

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Competition in the 2016 Micronesian Athletics Championships in Pohnpei will start today with the CNMI athletes seeing action in seven of the 22 events scheduled in the opener.

Chloe Salvosa will kick off the Commonwealth's campaign in the regional championships as she joins the women's U18 javelin throw—the fourth event in Day 1 behind the men's and women's 10,000m runs and the 100m hurdles of the heptathlon contest.

Salvosa, who is participating in her first off-island athletics tournament, is also entered in the U18 100m race, along with Bernadette Horey and Pinyarat Shankweiler. The three CNMI bets will be running against Palau's Iesha Umayam, Chuuk's Nepeufich Aunuwa, Nauru's Enuwudu

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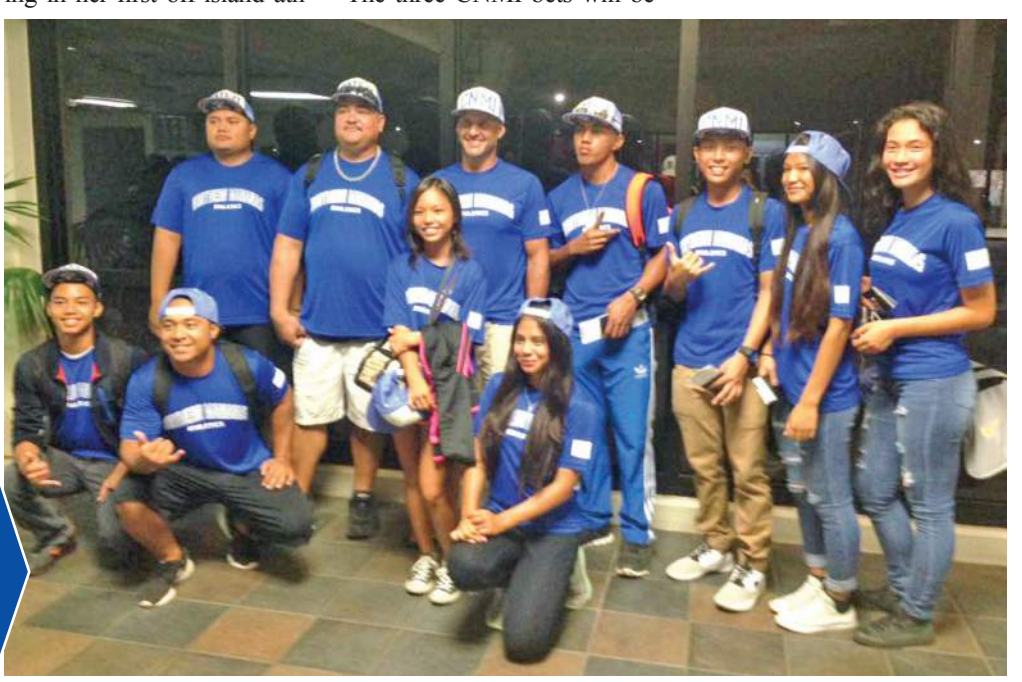

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
CNMI team members and officials pose for a photo last Monday before they leave Saipan for Pohnpei to compete in the 2016 Micronesian Athletics Championships.